

FBIS-MEA-87-095
Monday
18 May 1987
Vol V No 095

Daily Report

MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

**SPECIAL CONSUMER NOTICE
PRINTED INSIDE COVER**



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTICE

On 1 June 1987 FBIS will begin publication of reorganized and renamed DAILY REPORTS. The following list details the changes being made in the eight volumes.

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| I. CHINA DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| II. EASTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| III. SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |
| IV. EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT | Renamed; formerly ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT; contents unchanged |
| V. NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT | Renamed; formerly MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DAILY REPORT; contents include:
Middle East & South Asia Review
Inter-Arab Affairs
Islamic Affairs
Palestinian Affairs
OPEC Affairs
South Asian Regional Affairs
Arab Africa
Algeria
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Lebanon
Syria
South Asia
Afghanistan
Bangladesh
India
Iran
Maldives
Nepal & Bhutan
Pakistan
Sri Lanka |
| VI. LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT | Contents unchanged |

(continued on back of report)

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 MAY 1987

Gulf War

Iraqi warplanes carried out "armed aerial activity" in the Gulf sector where the U.S. frigate *Stark* was attacked, according to a spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry cited by Voice of the Masses radio 18 May. The spokesman declared that if Iraqi planes were responsible for the 17 May attack in which several U.S. sailors died, then it must have been the "result of a possible mixup and confusion," and Iraq "will have the courage" to confirm and announce its "error."

In addition to the attack on the *Stark*, a Soviet tanker was damaged when it hit a mine in the Gulf, TASS reported 17 May. Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi commented that the two incidents demonstrate that the Gulf "is not secure for the superpowers," in remarks cited by IRNA. Musavi declared that Washington has "lost face" and will have difficulty explaining the "embarrassing issue" of its support for Iraq to the U.S. and world public. Musavi had previously reiterated to the visiting Omani foreign affairs official Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah that security in the Gulf can only be attained "by not supporting" Iraq, Tehran radio reported. The official arrived 16 May to deliver messages from Sultan Qabus and to discuss "common interests."

Iraqi warplanes also hit two large maritime targets off the Iranian coast 17 May, according to Iraqi military statements reported by INA. Athens radio noted that a Cypriot tanker was damaged by an air strike. IRNA announced an Iranian air attack on the northern Iraqi city of Dahuk the same day, although INA cited an Iraqi spokesman's statement that Iranian planes were "forced to flee" by Iraqi air defenses.

In earlier action, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio stated that Iraqi planes carried out a "destructive" raid on the Ahvaz oil fields 15 May, turning their targets into "rubble with billowing flames." For Iran's part, IRNA reported that Iranian artillery shelled the Iraqi port of 'Umm Qasr over the weekend in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iranian industrial targets.

As for the naval war, INA announced that Iraq repulsed a 16 May Iranian gunboat attack on Iraq's Al-'Amiq port, sinking one of the seven Iranian vessels.

IRNA continued to highlight the Iraqi Kurdish uprising in recent reports, asserting that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's talks with military commanders and governors from the northeast border region shows the Iraqi regime is "terribly concerned" about the "increasing turmoil" in that area. An INA report confirmed that Saddam Husayn met with the commanders of the I and V Army Corps 15 May, but it did not mention the presence of governors at the meeting.

Syria

Foreign Relations — A 16 May Damascus radio commentary condemned the U.S. decision to make the restoration of full diplomatic relations subject to certain conditions, including the stipulation that Syria stop supporting terrorism. The radio reaffirmed Syria's "principled" stand against terrorism and stressed that life will continue to be normal "with or without the presence of a U.S. ambassador."

Regarding relations with the USSR, a 16 May article in Kuwait's *Al-Qabas* contended that during President Hafiz al-Asad's recent visit to Moscow, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev promised Al-Asad that the Soviet Union will not accept the convocation of an international Middle East peace conference without Syria's participation. Citing "well-informed Arab sources," the paper added that this pledge was made because of Soviet and Syrian concern about a "strong current" in the U.S. Administration that seeks to hold Arab-Israeli negotiations without the participation of Syria and the PLO.

Despite the earlier *Al-Qabas* report that Al-Asad and the Iraqi president have agreed to scale down hostile propaganda campaigns, the Baghdad paper *Al-'Iraq* lambasted Syria's "treasonous" support for Iran in a 13 May article which spoke of Syria's "opportunistic and low" policy and predicted that the "suspect" Syrian-Iranian alliance will soon break up.

Coup Denial — An information spokesman in Damascus denied recent "rumors" about a coup attempt by air force pilots, Radio Monte Carlo reported 15 May.

Palestinian Affairs

A 17 May statement issued by the PLO Executive Committee called for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East within the framework of the United Nations and with the participation of permanent members of the Security Council and the parties concerned, "including the PLO on an equal basis," APS reported. The statement, which came at the end of a 4-day meeting in Tunis chaired by Yasir 'Arafat, stressed the committee's "unswerving determination" to protect Palestinian unity achieved at the recent PNC conference and called on Syria to "open a new chapter" in its relations with the PLO.

In a related development, an official PLO delegation headed by Faruq Qaddumi arrived in the Libyan capital for talks to "reinforce bilateral relations," Tripoli radio reported.

Israel

The Shinuy Movement announced its withdrawal from the coalition government 17 May, stating that it hopes the Labor Party

will follow suit, Jerusalem radio reported.

Tunisia

In remarks cited by Tunis radio 16 May, Prime Minister Rachid Sfar announced a partial reshuffle of some officials responsible for domestic and social sectors. Among the changes, Amor Chedli was appointed director of the cabinet while former Director Mansour Shkiri was named minister of supplies, housing, and transport. On the same day, the Tunis radio press review noted that *L'amal* and *L'action* ran articles that urged a "firm stand against the elements of anarchy and extremism" who engage in "political opportunism."

Sudan

Six Sudanese citizens were killed and seven injured 16 May when Ethiopian tanks fired on a truck near the border town of Kassala, according to an *Al-Ussbu* report cited by SUNA.

Cuban soldiers have participated in rebel military operations in southern Sudan, according to an *Adwa* report cited by MENA. The report adds that "hundreds" of Cuban soldiers stationed in Ethiopia recently crossed over into Sudan.

Egypt

IMF Agreement — An agreement with the IMF signed 15 May grants Egypt \$325 million in assistance through November 1988, MENA reported.

New Extremist Organization — An extremist religious organization linked to Iran has been uncovered by the investigation into the assassination attempt against former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha, according to *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*. The paper said 37 members of the organization have been arrested.

PDRY-USSR Relations

In a predeparture statement, Defense Minister Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad declared that his visit to Moscow is aimed at "consolidating" bilateral military relations, Aden radio reported 15 May. The minister noted that the YSP has made new strides in "military construction" with the aim of "securing" the gains of the revolution.

Afghanistan

PDPA General Secretary Najibullah discussed his plans for national reconciliation during an address broadcast by Kabul radio 11 May, indicating that he envisages a multiparty system involving parties that are "united by a joint and unique platform of national reconciliation." Other parties should "freely" carry out their political activities while the PDPA will continue its "uniting and mobilizing role" as the "main force" in society. The program and platform of a national unity government may well be different from the PDPA's program, he added. Najibullah also stressed the need for "openness" and he answered a number of questions that were sharply critical of PDPA officials and practices. In one of his answers, Najibullah praised former DRA Presidents Nur Mohammad Taraki and Babrak Karmal for their "unforgettable" role in serving the revolution. As for the followers of Hafizullah Amin, the DRA leader deposed by Soviet forces in 1979, Najibullah disclosed that a number of personalities from Amin's administration were among 5,600 prisoners released in the recent amnesty.

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Congressional Bill To Close PLO Offices Condemned

JN161949 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1818 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] The PLO's official spokesman, Brother Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman, has condemned the draft bill submitted by five U.S. senators calling for the closure of PLO offices in Washington and New York. Brother Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman stressed that any attempt to undermine the Palestinian presence in the United States would hurt American interests while serving only the Zionists.

Brother Hasan 'Abd al-Rahman, director of the PLO office in Washington, said that this measure, as well as the continuing campaign led by Zionist circles and organizations in the United States, which is sponsored by the supporters of Zionism in the U.S. Congress, seeks to deal a blow to legal Palestinian action and the American people's backing of Palestinian rights. He noted that all this is a reaction to the Palestinian people's achievement at the 18th PNC session in Algiers last month. He pointed out that this campaign coincides with what have been called efforts to push forward the peace process. Therefore, he added, these circles seek to achieve a diplomatic victory over the PLO.

He went on: From a legal viewpoint, the PLO office in Washington is registered with the U.S. Department of Labor. The American Justice Department has said several times this office and its employees operate in accordance with the law. However, the New York office is a mission connected with the United Nations and is governed by an agreement signed with the host country.

'Arafat To Visit Morocco; Improved Ties Cited

JN160737 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0715 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Doha, 16 May (WAKH) — According to press reports in Doha today, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is expected to visit Morocco after 'Id al-Fitr following a relaxation in Moroccan-Palestinian relations. The Qatari newspaper *Al-'Arab* cited well-informed Palestinian sources as saying the efforts of Gulf states contributed to this reduction in tension. The PLO representative and the staff of the PLO office have returned to Morocco to carry out their duties in full. The sources told *Al-'Arab* of a meeting between the Moroccan monarch and an Arab Gulf leader that included a discussion of Palestinian-Moroccan ties. The sources added that the meeting's outcome was putting an end to all differences between the PLO and Morocco.

PLO Delegation Leaves Tunis for Talks in Libya

JN152051 Doha QNA in Arabic 2006 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Tunis, 15 May (QNA) — A PLO Executive Committee delegation left Tunisia for Libya today for a meeting with Libyan President [as received] Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi. QNA's correspondent in Tunisia has learned that the group includes Faruq Qaddumi, Jawid al-Ghusayn, Yasir 'Abd Rab-buh, and Abu 'Ali Mustafa [Mustafa al-Zibri]. The Palestinian-

Libyan talks will focus on ways to bolster bilateral relations and on consultations regarding the Arab and international situations.

Informed Palestinian sources expect the delegation to return to Tunisia tomorrow to present a report on its talks with the Libyan leader to the PLO Executive Committee, which is meeting in Tunis.

At last night's session under Yasir 'Arafat, the Executive Committee discussed the PLO's relations with a number of Arab states, especially Egypt, and heard detailed reports on the causes of the ongoing crisis between them and methods of dealing with it.

It is thought that the Executive Committee intends to send delegations to Egypt, Syria, and Jordan later on to improve its ties with those three countries.

PLO Executive Committee Issues Statement on Meeting

LD180927 Algiers APS in Arabic 0815 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Tunis, 18 May (APS) — The PLO Executive Committee has expressed its great pride at achieving Palestinian unity, which was secured in response to the will of the Palestinian people. It was also an expression of their ambition and determination to continue fighting on the basis of national unity for the recovery of their national rights, including those of repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

In a statement issued in Tunis yesterday evening at the end of its 4-day meeting, the committee declared its unswerving will to safeguard and protect national unity from all attempts to sow suspicion, commit sabotage, and hatch plots. In doing so, it relies on the Palestinian, Arab, and friendly shield which rallies around the PLO and the revolution.

The committee expressed the PLO's determination to continue and escalate every form of struggle in the occupied homeland against the Zionist enemy and its policy of repression, terror, and settlement.

The PLO Executive Committee announced its insistence on an international peace conference on the Middle East within the UN framework and under its supervision with the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council and the parties concerned with the regional conflict, including the PLO, on an equal footing.

After condemning Zionist acts of aggression against the Lebanese people, the Executive Committee reaffirmed its pride in the position taken by the Lebanese and their nationalist movement in the common fight against the Zionist enemy in defense of Lebanon's independence, freedom, and unity of land and people.

On Palestinian-Arab relations, the committee emphasized the importance of work to revive Arab solidarity in accordance with a commitment to the Palestinian people's inalienable and non-negotiable rights. This is also being done against the background

of a commitment to the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative and to its involvement in the conference on an equal footing with the other parties concerned and on the basis of the Arab summit resolutions and Arab action charters for the liberation of occupied Arab and Palestinian lands.

For this reason, the PLO Executive Committee has decided to form committees to follow up the question of relations with the fraternal Arab states and to place these ties within true pan-Arab parameters. It has also pledged to create all conditions necessary to convene an Arab summit capable of meeting the dangers threatening the Arab nation and its central cause, Palestine.

As for the PLO's relations with Syria, the committee feels, in light of the national unity attained at the PNC, that the obstacles to fraternal ties with Syria on a foundation of equality, mutual respect, and the struggle against a common imperialist Zionist enemy no longer exist. The PLO Executive Committee extends its hand to Syria, calling on it to overcome past differences and open a new chapter, thereby serving the objectives and interests of the two peoples as well as those of the collective pan-Arab struggle.

In addition, the Executive Committee condemned all forms of terrorism, as well as the state terrorism practiced by the United States and Israel.

The committee declared that it will work for stronger relations with the socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union, and with all the world's national liberation forces.

The PLO Executive Committee expressed its deep appreciation and thanks to Algeria and President Chadli Bendjedid for the fraternal interest and care they accorded the Palestinian national dialogue and the PNC, and for their significant role in making the PNC's national unity session possible.

Turning to Palestinian-Egyptian relations, the PLO Executive Committee announced the creation of a committee headed by its chairman to follow up the matter of ties with Egypt and to tackle it in line with an insistence on the Palestinian people's established national rights, including those of repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent national state. The committee also promised to uphold the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative and its participation in the international conference on an equal footing with the other parties concerned.

With regard to American-Zionist plots, the committee called on the international public to condemn the stands taken by the U.S. Administration and Israel and to draw attention to the sinister objectives and unjust campaigns being waged against the PLO.

Central Council Formed

LD152210 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 15 May 87

[Excerpt] PLO spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman said in Tunis yesterday that the PLO Executive Committee, which is meeting

in the Tunisian capital, has agreed to form a central council [majlis markazi] of 93 members. [passage omitted]

PLO Official Cited on Relations With Arab States

JN171132 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0955 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 May (WAKH) — The PLO has expressed its readiness to begin a dialogue with the Jordanian Government on the basis of the PNC and Fes summit resolutions.

This was announced by Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the DFLP and member of the PLO Executive Committee, in a statement published today by the Abu Dhabi paper *Al-Ittihad*. He said the Executive Committee will send a memo to the Jordanian Government and the Arab League on some recent Jordanian measures that hurt the PLO and the cause of independent Palestinian representation. He explained that the document will deal with the new Jordanian election law regarding the representation of Palestinian camps in Jordan and the West Bank in the Jordanian parliament.

Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh referred to the dangerous implications of Jordan's steps, as any representation of the camps in parliament will raise the danger of a settlement. These camps are for refugees and some date back to 1967. Their representation seems to be constant and permanent, as the new Jordanian law considers them constituencies with no temporary status.

On ties with Egypt, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh declared: For our part, we say there was no justification for Egypt's closure of PLO offices, especially since the PNC resolution clarified the political bases of this relationship and referred the issue to the PLO Executive Committee. He said no decision on these relations was made during the Executive Committee meetings.

Turning to relations with Damascus, 'Abd Rabbuh said the PLO Executive Committee is still waiting for Syria's reply to the proposed visit of a Palestinian delegation. He added: We are in continuous touch with Syria, but these contacts have yet to crystallize, and have had no tangible results. He said the Executive Committee is ready to begin a direct dialogue to discuss all these matters.

He noted that the Syrian leadership's stand on the DFLP is unchanged, as the leaders who took part in the Algiers PNC meeting are still banned from returning to Damascus.

As for relations with Libya, 'Abd Rabbuh confirmed what *Al-Ittihad* reported previously: He will head for Tripoli today with a PLO Executive Committee delegation for talks with Libyan leaders on bolstering the ties between the Palestinians and Libya, which have entered a new stage. Other top-level meetings will also be prepared. The delegation includes Faruq Qaddumi, Abu 'Ali Mustafa [Mustafa al-Zibri], and Jawid al-Ghusayn.

This will be the first visit in a long time by a PLO Executive Committee delegation. The previous trips were made on the basis of membership in fronts.

PLO's Mahmud 'Abbas Downplays Contacts With Syria
LD151319 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 May (KUNA) — In a statement published today by the UAE newspaper *Al-Ittihad*, PLO Executive Committee Member Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu Mazin, revealed that the results of contacts with Syria "have not been encouraging." He said there was no need to hold a new PNC session in Damascus.

He added that there are plans to defer a decision on relations with Cairo until the Executive Committee's upcoming meeting. He also disclosed that a Palestinian delegation will be going to Moscow soon to acquaint Kremlin leaders with the results of the recent PNC meeting in Algeria.

According to *Al-Ittihad*, PLO Executive Committee Member Jamal al-Surani brought along Egypt's conditions for a restoration of relations with the PLO.

The paper quotes Palestinian sources as saying that the distribution of portfolios in the Executive Committee is no problem: The information portfolio will return to the DFLP, represented by Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh; Abu 'Ali Mustafa al-Zibri will be in charge of the camps portfolio; the Political Department will remain with Fatah, in the person of Faruq Qaddumi; Mahmud Darwish will assume the culture portfolio; and Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani will keep his post as president of the Higher Council for Culture, Science, and Literature, which is part of the culture portfolio.

Abu Mazin said the Executive Committee has a long agenda and, as such, its meetings will continue until today.

He added that in his view, the visit to Damascus by PFLP Secretary General George Habash, as well as his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, produced nothing new. After all, Syrian officials spoke of completing the process of national unity, while we feel that was done at the 18th PNC session, for the groups still in Damascus — Al-Sa'iqah, the Popular Struggle Front, and the People's Front-General Command — have their places in the PNC and Central Council.

PLO's Al-Wazir Speaks on Palestinian Anniversary
JN160712 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1833 GMT 15 May 87

[Statement to PLO radio by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, on the 39th anniversary of "the usurpation of Palestine;" place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Today our people are observing the anniversary of the catastrophe of 15 May, after 39 tragic years full of suffering. The reverse has actually afflicted our people and has produced what we now see in our Palestinian life. However, when our cause was one of refugees and when it was one of a continuing tragedy, a brilliant page in our history was written. Our people took up arms and began to fight, thus embodying the cause of a struggling people who seek not sympathy but respect and reverence for their continuous sacrifices. [passage omitted]

On the anniversary of our Palestinian catastrophe, we see basic facts. The first of these is that our people have not died but have continued their fight. The second is that their armed and political struggle has not stopped. We see this struggle in the occupied territory each moment. We see the child throwing a stone at Israeli enemy tanks and we see the girl confronting an Israeli enemy patrol. We also see young and old facing up to the repression and the unbroken savagery of the occupation forces. They are doing so with faith in their will, be they in our camps in the occupied territories or in each city and village. This heroic stand and this daily struggle express our people's determination to reject occupation. [passage omitted]

The continued presence of the fighting rifle in Lebanon reflects our people's insistence on keeping up the armed struggle. Likewise, our people's ceaseless fight in the occupied territories mirrors their will to continue their stubborn resistance and revolution. These factors clearly constitute a practical reply to that tragedy, a practical reply that will light the way to our freedom and independence, and to the liberation of our usurped homeland from this Israeli aggression against our people. This is undoubtedly the path that will lead our nation to Arab solidarity in support of our struggle. [passage omitted]

Despite all the wounds, suffering, and darkness, hope will remain our target and treasure from which we draw our strength and on which we rely throughout this long, hard journey, which is replete with blood, sacrifices, and suffering. What we see in our camps in Lebanon, what our people see in the occupied territories, and what our kinfolk and brothers see everywhere in the diaspora are clearly part of our long and hard journey. However, God willing, we will eventually reach that shore, the shore of victory.

Fatah Uprising Statement
JN161603 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Damascus — In a statement issued today on the 39th anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine, the Palestine National Liberation Movement-Fatah Uprising declared its loyalty to the aims and tenets of the Palestinian revolution. It also reaffirmed its commitment to the main principles of struggle with the Zionist enemy. It did so in accordance with the Palestine National Charter and on the basis of a stronger alliance of struggle with steadfast revolutionary Syria in facing the imperialist and Zionist plot and the path of capitulation.

The statement referred to Israeli measures against Arab citizens in the occupied territories and Zionist steps to change the demography of those areas and to force the Palestinian people to capitulate. The declaration voiced the Palestinian people's rejection of every fascist method used by the Israeli enemy. This rejection is represented by the Arab people's daily sacrifices and operations inside occupied Palestine.

Concluding its statement, the movement called for closer bonds of struggle with revolutionary steadfast Syria, which is an impregnable bastion in the face of plots to liquidate the Palestinian cause. It also called for stronger ties of struggle with Arab liberation forces and with world liberation forces led by the

friendly USSR. The declaration saluted the Arab nation's martyrs, who fell while resisting the colonization policy of Zionist settlers, pledging to continue the struggle until victory.

Sa'id Musa Group Claims Hebron Bus Attack

*JN151820 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 15 May 87*

[Text] The group affiliated with Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah] issued a statement in Beirut today claiming responsibility for an attack on a bus in southern Hebron. According to the declaration, Molotov cocktails were thrown at an Israeli military bus, injuring a number of people.

PLO Command on Hebron Assault

*JN167.04 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1818 GMT 16 May 87*

[Statement by military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; date, place not given]

[Text] In implementation of orders, one of our groups operating inside the occupied homeland has planted time bombs on a road

in the (Gush Qatif) settlement in the occupied Gaza Strip before returning safely to base. The Palestinian charges went off yesterday morning as a Zionist military vehicle was traveling on the road. The vehicle was badly damaged, and several enemy personnel were either killed or wounded. Revolution until victory!

One of our groups operating inside the occupied homeland used incendiary devices to attack a military vehicle on the Beersheba-Jerusalem road, south of the town of Dura in Hebron District, the day before yesterday. That assault left the vehicle burned and several enemy personnel wounded. The Zionist enemy forces besieged the area and launched a search. Our group returned safely to base.

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

Athens Reports Cypriot Tanker Hit in Gulf
NC171821 Athens Domestic Service in Greek
 1800 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] The Cypriot tanker *Zeus* was hit at noon today 70 miles off Khark Island in the Persian Gulf. There were no casualties among the crew of 8 Greeks and 22 foreigners. The vessel is being towed to the Gulf of Hormuz.

KUWAIT

Egyptian, Algerian Ministers Send Messages
LD161453 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1218 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Kuwait, 16 May (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwait's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received messages today from Dr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid, Egypt's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told the press that Dr 'Abd al-Majid's message was in response to his own message of 4 May, which was delivered by the under secretary of the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry, Sulayman Majid al-Shahin. This, in turn, was part of Kuwait's efforts to eliminate the dispute that developed between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the PLO.

He added that Dr 'Abd al-Majid's message affirmed the depth of the feelings and respect which the brothers in Egypt have for the PLO. He expressed hope that any misunderstanding in relations with the PLO that arose after the recent PNC session in Algiers will be handled rationally and safely. He added that the misunderstanding will soon end as long as goodwill prevails.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad noted that the message he received from his Algerian counterpart details the results of the tripartite summit involving the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, King Hassan II of Morocco, and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

The message was delivered by the Algerian ambassador to Kuwait, Hasnaoui Khalidi, who called on Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad today.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad also met today with Rashid al-Rashid, the minister of state for cabinet affairs, and Kuwait's ambassador in Damascus, Ahmad al-Jasim.

UAE Oil Minister Begins 'Non-Petroleum' Mission
LD170910 Kuwait KUNA in English 0806 GMT 17 May 87

[By Shamel Khairy]

[Text] Kuwait, May 17 (KUNA) — The UAE petroleum and mineral resources minister, Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah said on arrival here after midnight Saturday that he was carrying a

message to H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad from his president Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan dealing with cooperation and consultation between the two brotherly countries.

Al-'Utaybah told reporters that the message, he will convey Sunday, also falls in line with cooperation among the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council and in line with joint efforts to clear Arab atmosphere. He described his mission as "not related to petroleum."

Kuwait is the fourth leg of Al-'Utaybah's tour of GCC countries that started three days ago with a visit to Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Bahrain on a similar mission.

Al-'Utaybah, who was received on arrival by Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Adbi, refused to answer a question by *Kuwait News Agency* to explain whether his country will ask for an increase in its production quota of 902,000 barrels of oil per day within the overall ceiling of OPEC crude production at the organization's forthcoming ministerial conference slated for June 25 in Vienna.

"I have explained my country's stance toward increasing its production quota at several occasions and I do not think I have to repeat it."

KUNA asked again whether the UAE's demand emanates from a principled non-conviction of its production quota in general or it will be tabled for sure at OPEC's forthcoming conference, Al-'Utaybah replied, "Let us tackle non-petroleum issues and let us talk about our non-petroleum mission." He added "We will discuss coordination of petroleum stands at the GCC oil ministers meeting scheduled for Tuesday in Jeddah, toward various topics to be raised during the OPEC conference."

Asked whether the OPEC countries will discuss increasing oil prices above its current official 18 dollar per barrel price in view of improvement in the price at present in the international markets, Al-'Utaybah said there is an idea for evaluating the oil barrel with a basket of currencies instead of the dollar whose value is currently deteriorating.

"The OPEC ministers had agreed in their December meeting in Geneva to abide by the official price and the production ceiling of 16.8 million barrels per day until end of 1987 and I do not think there will be any change on this accord," the UAE minister elaborated.

It was not yet certain whether Al-'Utaybah's statement that the OPEC agreement will remain untouched until end of this year meant that his country, following his current tour of the GCC states, was convinced not to raise the issue of increasing its quota at the OPEC's Vienna conference.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have recently announced that they prefer a commitment to the OPEC agreement on official prices and production quotas for all 13 members of the organization to strengthen the oil market.

Delivers Message to Amir*LD171103 Kuwait KUNA in English 1030 GMT 17 May 87*

[Text] Kuwait, May 17 (KUNA) — Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister of the United Arab Emirates Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah left here Sunday following a brief visit to Kuwait, during which he delivered a message to H.H. the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah from UAE President Shaykh Zahir ibn Sultan al-Nahayyan.

Al-'Utaybah affirmed in a statement to KUNA upon his departure that he was honored to meet his highness the amir of Kuwait who asked him to convey a reply message to Shaykh Zayid. He added that he met with Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Adbi and discussion between the two centered on issues of mutual concern "which we always agree on."

The UAE minister called on OPEC countries to adhere to the organization's recent agreement, reached last December in Geneva on production quota and oil prices until the end of this year. He said "We as 13 member countries of OPEC have succeeded until now in implementing this agreement during the first half of this year and we have to succeed in executing it until the end of the current year. [no closing quotation marks as received]"

Al-'Utaybah noted that it is possible to reconsider this agreement by the end of 1987 to solve any oil situation that may emerge in 1988.

Al-'Utaybah was seen off at the airport by Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa.

PDRY**Defense Minister Departs for Moscow Visit***EA151616 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 May 87*

[Text] Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, candidate member of the Political Bureau and defense minister, left Aden for Moscow this afternoon at the start of an official visit to the USSR. He is making the trip at the invitation of his Soviet counterpart. He and the members of the military delegation he is leading will stay in the USSR for several days.

Before his departure, the brother minister of defense issued a statement to ANA. In it, he said his visit was designed to continue and deepen the militant ties between the two friendly countries in defense and bolster bilateral relations in military construction. He pointed out that the trip would help tighten the bonds of amity and cooperation between the armies of the two friendly states.

He added: Thanks to the concern of those of us in Democratic Yemen and the persistence of the ruling party, we have taken a fresh and qualitative step forward in terms of the new military construction, which seeks to meet the needs of national defense and the achievements of our revolution.

He was seen off at the airport by the following brothers: Col Haytham Qasim Tahir, member of the Central Committee, first deputy defense minister, and chief of the general staff; Lieutenant Colonel 'Ali Sa'id 'Ubayd, member of the Central Committee and commander of the artillery and missile corps; Lt Col Dr Husayn 'Ali Hasan, director of the Armed Forces Political Department, and several other Armed Forces commanders.

YSP General Secretary Addresses Veterans Meeting*EA162032 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 May 87*

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, general secretary of the YSP Central Committee, met a number of fighters from the liberation war yesterday evening in the presence of several brother members of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee.

The brother general secretary opened the session with a speech in which he expressed his happiness at meeting these brother fighters, who have gone through more than 2 decades of struggle and had the honor of participating in the achievement of our national independence. This meeting comes as we approach the celebration of the 20th anniversary of our independence.

He said: As we meet today, we recall that convoy of martyrs we have lost and we are grieved by their passing. They are led by lofty leaders, headed by the glorious martyrs Fattah, Antar, Muslih, and Shai. He noted that the revolutionary party and government would take care of the brother fighters from the liberation war.

He pointed out: Our meetings with fighters, not all of whom we have been able to see today, will be repeated and organized and all the concerns and issues they raise will be discussed. He stated that the YSP is the fruit of your struggle and is the voice of the revolution capable of leading it to its distant horizons to achieve the interests of the working masses.

The brother general secretary declared: Had it not been for the steadfastness of the fighters and toilers, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad would have exterminated this revolution and driven it off course on 13 January. He continued: Despite all the reverses, pain, sorrow, and the hundreds of martyrs, the YSP managed to meet every difficulty.

The brother general secretary said the party will attend not only to those who fought the liberation war but to their children, as well, who should be proud of their struggle and that of the party and contribute to building the homeland.

He explained that the greatest danger to the revolution was the spirit of conspiracy fostered by the plotter 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. If we are to correct mistakes, we must criticize each another and work for this regime and for the future. The general secretary said the party now needs more work and struggle, stressing commitment to party documents and literature so we may learn from past mistakes. He noted: We must read about our experiences and those of others, and draw conclusions as we approach the conference.

The custodian of the two holy mosques then spoke of the virtues inherent in loyalty to Islam [passage omitted]

Turning to the Palestinian issue, the custodian of the two holy mosques said: God has granted me success in presenting it and in carrying its cause to the leaders of the West, whom I have met in Britain, France, and Spain, and to all the important and influential people I spoke to for long hours. I found a good response and a deep understanding of the justice of this cause and the Palestinian people's right to recover their homeland. There was also support for their demands. In addition, I discussed the various aspects of this decisive issue with the brother Arab leaders, and with God's help, was able to contain the differences of opinions and reach a unity of views on all matters that serve its objectives and lead it to victory, God willing.

Concluding, the custodian of the two holy mosques declared: We are meeting here today, just as I met your brothers in Riyadh yesterday. I will be seeing your brothers in Mecca and then in Madinah. We hope our meetings will be governed by the tranquility of the one strong and loving family so we may discuss all matters we deem good for our religion and world. [passage omitted]

UAE

'Source' Denies UK Protection of Ships Requested
JN170847 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 May (WAKH) — A responsible UAE source has categorically denied some recent press reports alleging that the UAE has asked Britain to protect its ships.

In a statement cited by WAM tonight, the source described such reports as completely groundless. The source noted that one of the unchanging principles of UAE policy is to put all facts before the public. As such, were this claim true, it would have been announced in a timely fashion. The source added that the UAE sees no reason to seek foreign protection for its ships and that there is no proof of this false assertion.

Concluding his statement, the source called on the media to be more accurate in dealing with such reports out of concern for the UAE's relations and interests with its friends. He pointed out that the dissemination of such a fabricated story does not serve relations between the UAE and its friends.

He said the draft of the critical analysis of our experience has been drawn up and will be sent down to the bases, our fighters, and the masses of our people. This document contains things that will enable us to unify our ideas so we may all proceed from it toward greater work, construction, and progress. In this document, we assessed experiences and mistakes, and we promise you the mistakes will not be repeated. We will lay down important matters so as to advance the revolution; it will never go backward.

He added: The 13 January conspiracy has had negative repercussions and has left a great deal of pain. Our revolutionary party and government will work to make things better than they were before. We will strive to care for all families that were hurt in those incidents. We are working in this direction day and night.

We know there are several sides to our shortcomings, and we are trying to resolve them all. We are also striving to open the way for our misguided brothers to return to their homeland. We will put the general amnesty decree and all its detailed measures into practice.

The brother secretary general said: As we meet today, we want to restore the morals and values we grew up with during the liberation war, values we must preserve and develop. As for the ills created by the opportunist right, they kept us away from these values. The document of critical analysis will now unify our vision and restore our revolutionary traditions and morals to us. The best among us are those who understand the policy, documents, and literature of our party, stand by them and implement them, and have a commitment to the interests of the poor.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid explained: Our task today is to prepare for the conference. On that subject, he pointed out: Things are going well and all party members will participate in discussing the document. The party masses, too, will take part in the examination of the document, as will the toiling masses of our people. We will then draw the conclusions that will show us the way to the future in light of the party program. It is important to us to emphasize our future tasks in promoting the revolution.

He declared: The counterrevolution is now trying to spread rumors about the role of our Soviet comrades in oil exploration. We say the Soviet comrades helped us extract oil to prop up our democratic nationalist regime and our national economy to achieve the interests of workers.

The brother secretary general concluded his speech by saying: The party's general conference will be a stage in unifying the party and reinforcing its leading role and a platform for future construction toward socialism. There will be no place for past mistakes and ills; the most important thing now is for us all to help prepare for the conference.

After that, the brother fighters from the liberation war offered their views on various issues concerning our homeland, our society, and our experience. They pledged to make every effort to continue their struggle on the basis of the YSP's principles to achieve all the aims of our revolution and party.

Delegations Attending CEMA Meeting Depart

EA152136 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 15 May 87

[Excerpt] The delegations of member countries participating in the meetings of the first round of the joint committee for cooperation between our country and CEMA, which was held in Aden from 12 to 13 May, left Aden this afternoon.

CEMA Deputy Secretary Comrade (Ravdonskiy) made a departure statement to the *Aden News Agency* in which he expressed his own gratitude and that of his delegation for the warmth with which they were received, and for the hospitality they were accorded by the Yemeni people.

He pointed out that the basic outline of cooperation between Democratic Yemen and CEMA was determined during the round. He stressed that both sides were eager to flesh out this framework in the future. [passage omitted]

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd Discusses Meeting With Hassan, Bendjedid

LD151100 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0305 GMT 15 May 87

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 15 May (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, may God protect him, granted an audience yesterday evening at Al-Salam Palace to a large number of ulema, shaykhs, and citizens who came to welcome him and congratulate him on his safe return. [passage omitted] They later had dinner with the king, who addressed his brothers and sons, the people, during the banquet, saying:

Before anything else, allow me to thank Almighty God for the great and inestimable wealth He has bestowed on this country and its sons. [passage omitted] You must have followed all the steps we took and the achievements God enabled us to attain during our tour, he added. I was eager to complete these measures and accomplishments, despite my personal suffering with the advent of the blessed month of Ramadan in the last stages, until success was achieved and I attended the meeting of those two honorable brothers, King Hassan II of Morocco and President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria. What I want to say is that the few days of the month of Ramadan, which God has decreed that I spend outside the Kingdom, were, thanks be to God, crowned with the result for which I had worked and to which I had long aspired. This was done with God's help and with the gracious response I received from the two honorable brothers, who have all manner of friendship, respect, and appreciation for each other. I pray to God to enable us always to enjoy the good trust of all and to follow the maxim of God Almighty: "The faithful are brothers, and so make peace among your brothers." We pin our hopes, after God, on good intentions and sincere wishes for a closing of ranks, a unification of stands, and support for the rights enjoyed by the leaders of Islamic and Arab nations.

taining current social policies to guarantee security for low-income groups. Thus, the IMF-approved policies are wholly Egyptian.

Some people might allege it is not necessary for the IMF to issue a certificate of appreciation and good conduct to the Egyptian economy. We believe, however, that as long as we are part of the international economy, and conduct business in this milieu, then an international certification that our local economy is correct is needed. Growth is totally dependent upon the faith of all investors in the seriousness of proposed projects and the comprehensiveness of the general plan that organizes them. Hence, the IMF board's assertion that the overall outlook of the Egyptian economic plan's objectives is correct is not a certificate that hides behind examples of shoddy performance, negligence, or any kind of economic chaos. The IMF's view expresses an actual fact that can be missed only by those who do not see the sun at high noon.

The agreement of intent was signed by Egypt and the IMF shortly before the final touches were put to the second development plan due to begin in early July. According to the IMF statement, this agreement is but the first step in a broad strategy intended to formulate a long-term reform program that will utilize foreign aid and be implemented through cooperation among Egypt, the IMF, and the World Bank.

In light of this, our basic duty is to seek higher production, because only through production will we be able to attain the required growth rates and bring the country economic security.

Pro-Iranian Group Uncovered; 37 Members Arrested
NC180724 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
 18 May p 1

[Excerpt] Cairo, *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* office — [Passage omitted] *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* has learned that a new extremist religious organization was uncovered by Egyptian security forces during their search for suspects in the assassination attempt against former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha.

Thirty-seven members of this organization have been arrested so far. While under interrogation, they confessed that they were planning to assassinate several of Egypt's leading public figures. They also confessed that they were perfecting a plan to create disturbances in a number of Egyptian governorates during visits by senior officials and ministers.

The security forces also found a number of weapons, maps, and leaflets when the group's members were apprehended. The leaflets, which were ready for distribution, were designed to incite domestic disorder.

Interior Minister Zaki Badr is expected to announce the details of this organization next week, when those taken into custody are referred to the state Supreme Court.

The ongoing investigations have revealed a connection between the members of this new group and the Iranian regime. The Egyptian authorities are still searching for the group's other

members, in addition to intensifying their efforts to apprehend any suspects [in the Abu Basha case].

Lawyers To Protest Arrests
NC170554 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
 0445 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Egyptian attorneys have called for a sit-in at the lawyers' association building tomorrow, to be followed by a meeting on Saturday and a general strike. This action is designed to protest the arrest of a number of lawyers as part of the wide-ranging investigation of the attempted assassination of former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha.

A member of the association's council has accused the Egyptian security forces of using the incident as an excuse for a series of arrests, which did not stop with members of Islamic groups but extended to leftist organizations and all opposition forces. These arrest campaigns, according to the lawyer, are similar to those launched by the late President Anwar al-Sadat in September 1981.

USSR Envoy Outlines Future Talks, Agreements
JN171625 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
 16 May 87 pp 1, 2

[By Huda Tawfiq]

[Text] The USSR actively participates in efforts under way to convene an international Middle East peace conference in consultation with Egypt and Arab countries. This was announced by Soviet Ambassador to Egypt Gennadiy Zhuravlev, who added he has discussed this with President Mubarak, Foreign Minister Dr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid, and Dr Usamah al-Baz. He added that discussions are also in progress to reopen Soviet consulates in Port Said and Alexandria in accordance with the tangible improvement in USSR-Egyptian relations.

The Soviet ambassador said Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, has been invited to visit Moscow to complete discussions on the cultural and technical cooperation agreement and on the USSR's participation in projects of the second 5-year plan. He also said a delegation of Soviet experts will arrive in Egypt in the next few days to discuss the trade agreement for next year. He said the computation of the new accounting price of the pound sterling at 137 piasters as of 1 May will greatly help in boosting trade.

The Soviet ambassador said an important aspect of the USSR's contacts revolves around the question of an international conference. He said his country believes this conference could be convened in 1988. He also said he told Dr 'Abd al-Majid of the USSR's wish to send First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov to Cairo for further talks with Egyptian officials, and that Dr 'Abd al-Majid has welcomed this visit, the date of which will be set later. It will follow the end of Vorontsov's discussions in Geneva, where he is heading his country's delegation to the disarmament talks with the United States.

Financial Agreement With IMF Signed 15 May
NC161733 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 May 87

[Excerpt] Washington, 16 May (MENA) — The Egyptian Government will receive \$160 million from the IMF this week as the first installment of a financial assistance agreement approved by the IMF yesterday to boost Egypt's economic and financial reform program. According to the agreement, Egypt will receive additional assistance from the IMF within the next 18 months. The accord will lead to the rescheduling of a large portion of Egypt's military and economic debts and will also help Egypt obtain more financial aid in the form of loans or grants. Further agreements to finance new projects in Egypt in the agricultural, industrial, and energy sectors will follow with the World Bank.

The IMF Board of Executive Directors signed the financial aid agreement for economic reform in Egypt late last night. It involves financial assistance totaling \$325 million, which is to take effect immediately and last until November 1988.

An IMF spokesman said the agreement will not reduce the welfare benefits allocated to Egypt's poor. The accord, he said, highlights the need to ensure that subsidies continue to be received by the truly deserving in line with Egypt's welfare policies.

The accord benefits Egypt in two ways: The first is that creditor countries, known as the Club of Paris, will convene in Paris next Thursday and Friday [21-22 May] to consider Egypt's request for a grace period and to review the repayment schedule. Egypt will then negotiate separately with each creditor country regarding the interest rate to be applied to its loans.

The second benefit for Egypt is that a consultative group of major industrial states headed by the World Bank will also meet in Paris to decide on additional financial assistance to Egypt to bolster its overall economic and financial reform program. Contacts are already under way to set a date for this meeting.

The MENA correspondent in Washington learned that the loans Egypt seeks to reschedule exceed \$10 billion and are long- and medium-term government and public sector debts. The Egyptian Government prepared a detailed list of these debts for distribution to members of the Club of Paris. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Notes IMF Accord
NC171548 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 17 May 87

[Excerpt] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has declared that the IMF's agreement to extend new loans to Egypt is a certificate proclaiming to the entire world that the Egyptian economy is on the correct course. His excellency added: There can be no greater proof of the wholesomeness of the Egyptian economy than the fact that some countries are offering to sell Egypt nuclear power plants costing \$2 or 3 billion. These countries have also offered to set up projects in Egypt, he said.

The president said: We must increase production to attain the Egyptian people's goals. He added that we are repaying our debts while seeking to increase production.

Referring to the Japanese experiment, his excellency affirmed that the Japanese economy is based on the establishment of small factories. The president noted he is visiting small plants to encourage them, pointing out that all production is national and that all those who produce and seek to increase production for the country's sake deserve our thanks.

His excellency praised the products he saw today, asserting they are superior to foreign products in terms of quality and price.

President Husni Mubarak visited a number of private projects in Egypt today. [passage omitted]

Commentary Praises Agreement
NC171533 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1240 GMT 17 May 87

[Commentary by Bahiy al-Din Shu'ayb: "Confidence in Ourselves and Our Work is the Key to Prosperity"]

[Text] Egypt has succeeded in concluding an agreement with the IMF following long months of effort during which our country kept to its original position. At issue is more than the \$325 million which Egypt will receive over the next 1 and 1/2 years. The matter is larger and more profound than this because the IMF is a window through which various countries can view any nation's local economy.

Negotiations with the IMF are often difficult because they are not primarily restricted to that organization but are linked to international transactions, especially as debts are a constant worry to both creditors and debtors. The Egyptian-IMF talks were hard because of Egypt's insistence that its views, formulated in accordance with existing local conditions, be the starting point and the focus of all discussion.

Some Egyptian political parties have attempted, and are still attempting, to portray the discussions between Egypt and the IMF as complete submission to the latter's conditions. These parties' most ugly endeavor was to accuse Egypt of having totally signed over its will to the control of the big powers, which have the primary say in IMF and international economic affairs. These parties ignored the fact that all countries, rich and poor, have dealt with the IMF; consequently, Egyptian negotiations with the Fund are neither an innovation nor a cause for disgrace.

The Egyptian-IMF agreement proved to be in keeping with Egyptian interests without accepting the IMF's conditions. In fact, Egypt succeeded in separating the subsidy issue from the negotiations on the grounds that it is an essential matter brooking no interference from anyone under any circumstances.

A cause for profound pride is the IMF Board of Governors' assertion that Egypt is implementing a comprehensive economic reform plan for the first time in its modern history, noting this will lead to a constant growth rate while simultaneously main-

Government Statement on U.S. Frigate Attack
JN181144 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1119 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Baghdad, 19 May (INA) — An Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman announced in Baghdad this afternoon that in accordance with instructions from the presidency, the Foreign Ministry followed the report of last night's attack on the U.S. frigate *Stark* in the Arabian Gulf with close interest.

He said that a serious examination of our aerial activity in the area throughout the day yesterday has been made and it has been confirmed to us that our Air Force did carry out armed aerial activity there.

The official spokesman asserted: We have not yet been able to confirm that the attack on the U.S. frigate was the work of one of our aircraft because, as is known, the targets approved for our planes are Iranian targets and no others.

The spokesman also said that judging from past experience, the Iranians try to create a mixup [tadakhul] wherever they can whenever our aircraft attack vital Iranian targets in the Gulf; the Iranian command launches counterblows not at Iraqi targets but at international or Arab targets in the Gulf.

The spokesman added that the attack on the U.S. frigate may be part of such hostile Iranian activity.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman explained: In any case, we do not believe the Americans or anyone else can conclude that Iraq intended or could intend to strike at any non-Iranian target in the Gulf. If this has happened, it must be the result of a possible mixup or confusion [al-tadakhul wa al-iltibas] on the part of the pilots.

The spokesman concluded: If it becomes certain to us that a mistake has been made, we will have the courage — and our policy is sufficiently clear to make us ready — to confirm that. We will announce it to the parties concerned and to the public along with our regret. Therefore, American officials should bide their time in reaching any conclusions. We should all cooperate with every means that will enable us to determine the result with the awareness and realism dictated by circumstances in the region.

Saddam Meets With I, V Army Corps Commanders
JN152021 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Baghdad, 15 May (INA) — President Saddam Husayn met with the commanders of the I and V Army Corps today for a discussion of the combat situation and the Iranian enemy's behavior in the sectors held by the two corps. Also present at the meeting were Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, the defense minister; 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command; and a number of members of the staff of the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command.

The conferees stressed the great preparedness of the Iraqi Armed Forces in these two sectors and in other operational areas, as well

as their ability to foil any designs the Iranian enemy may have on Iraq.

Chairs General Command Session
JN171833 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Staff Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, has chaired a meeting of the Armed Forces General Command. The session was also attended by Comrade 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command; Latif Nuayyif Jasim, minister of information and culture; Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; and members of the Armed Forces General Command.

'Aziz Returns From Arab Committee Talks in PRC
JN150836 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Baghdad, 15 May (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraq's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad this morning after a visit to the PRC, during which he joined the delegation of the seven-member Arab committee charged with following up developments in the Iraq-Iran war. The committee met with senior PRC officials yesterday for a review of events in Iran's aggression against Iraq. The delegation also explained the contents of the Security Council resolution to end the conflict.

The PRC president, whose country is one of the five permanent members of the Security Council, told the delegation that the war's continuation will bring only new problems and suffering. The only option, he noted, is to end the war and seek peace. The delegation, which was led by Tunisian Foreign Minister 'Hedi Mabrouk and included Tariq 'Aziz, had as its other members Mauritanian Foreign Minister Mohamed Lemine Ould N'diayane and the director of the economic department at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry.

Tariq 'Aziz also held talks with his PRC counterpart, Wu Xueqian, on the course of the Iraq-Iran war and the current consultations on the subject at the Security Council.

Egypt's Closure of Iranian Office 'Correct'
JN160836 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0817 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Baghdad, 16 May (INA) — Iraq has commended Egypt's decision to close the Iranian Interests Section in Cairo after the behavior of the office staff was proved to be inconsistent with diplomatic norms. In a statement to INA today, Tariq 'Aziz, Iraq's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said the Egyptian Government's decision was correct and daring. He noted: It has been proved that all Iranian diplomatic missions in the Arab states in particular, and in many Islamic and foreign countries as well, are merely dens that interfere in internal affairs, sow sedition, and commit acts of terrorism.

Tariq 'Aziz added that Egypt's decision, which followed a similar move by the Tunisian Government in March, must be carefully

studied by the Arab states. After all, they have suffered in the past and continue to suffer from the unanswered violation of diplomatic rules by Iranian missions.

Concluding his remarks, Tariq 'Aziz declared that if severe measures had been taken from the start against the blatant behavior of the Iranian regime's representatives, that regime would have learned its limits long ago. This, he explained, would have affected Iran's continued policies of aggression and expansion against Iraq and the other Arab states.

Armed Forces Issue Communiques on Gulf War

Ahvaz Oil Fields Attacked

*JN151240 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1200 GMT 15 May 87*

[Communique No 2,676 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 May 1987]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Today, our Air Force offers a new triumph to the leader of our victories and his people with a fresh strike at the enemies of God, the enemies of Arabism and Islam.

In implementation of their true promise to destroy all the enemy's vital installations and as a sign that they deserve God's grace and the satisfaction of our leader and people, the pilots of our Air Force carried out a destructive raid on the Ahvaz oil fields at 1000 today. Having penetrated the enemy's air defenses with their well-known courage and impeccable performance, our pilots directed their strikes at their targets, turning them into rubble under tongues of fire and columns of billowing smoke. After carrying out their mission in the best possible manner, our pilots returned to the homeland with their planes, proud and triumphant in God's care. Let the rascal Khomeyniites know that we will be God's unsheathed swords over their heads until they submit to the truth and the war comes to an end.

God bless our Air Force, commanders, pilots, officers, and men, for this deed and all others. We will remain great under our proud leader. From God we derive strength and support.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 May 1987.

31 Combat Sorties Noted

JN151649 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1559 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Baghdad, 15 May (INA) — Iraqi warplanes carried out 31 important combat missions today, spreading death and destruction among enemy troops and equipment before returning safely to base.

A military communique issued here today said Iraqi formations in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah inflicted new losses on the Iranian forces above and beyond the destruction of a tower, an observation post, and two ammunition dumps. Iraqi troops also seized two 40-mm rocket launchers and a GC rifle. In addition, the communique noted that residential districts in the city of Basra came under Iranian long-range artillery fire,

which damaged civilian property. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 2,677 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces have continued to inflict additional losses on the aggressors through the following combat operations yesterday evening and today:

1. Our Air Force carried out 31 combat missions today, killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying enemy weapons and equipment before returning safely to base, God be praised.
2. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector continued to direct heavy fire at enemy concentrations, assembly points, and vehicles, killing or wounding a number of enemy knaves and destroying a tank and seven other vehicles of various types.
3. Our men in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah attacked enemy units before them, inflicting new losses on the aggressors. They also destroyed an enemy tower, an observation post, and two ammunition dumps. In addition, they seized two 40-mm launchers and an enemy GC rifle, which had been abandoned in earlier battles.
4. Our units on the VII Army Corps front used artillery and mortars to attack enemy troops and guns, inflicting losses in men and materiel. Our men also destroyed three gun emplacements, two vehicles, a mortar, and an ammunition dump.
5. Two enemy vehicles and a 106-mm gun were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.
6. The criminal enemy shelled residential areas in Basra with long-range artillery, doing harm to civilians and their property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 May 1987

Artillery Destroys Positions

*JN161713 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 16 May 87*

[Communique No 2,678 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 May 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces continued their heroic activities in the theaters of operation yesterday evening and today, inflicting the following additional losses on the Zionist Khomeyniites:

1. The crews of our valiant helicopter gunships flew 27 combat sorties against enemy units, inflicting losses in men and materiel before returning safely to base, praise be to God.
2. Our artillery and tank units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah brought the enemy formations before them under heavy fire. Others pounded concentrations and positions held by

The Soviet ambassador said the USSR feels there has been some change in the U.S. Administration's stand on an international conference. After all, Washington no longer excludes the possibility of an international conference as a means of settling the Middle East crisis.

The Soviet ambassador noted the importance of securing joint understanding on the work of an international conference to achieve peace and to establish humane [insaniyah] relations among the states of the Middle East. He said the USSR, the United States, the UN secretary general, and the other UN Security Council permanent members are doing a great amount of work on this. He said there are still many obstacles to be overcome before the conference convenes and that his government is working for reaching an understanding on this while taking account of the interests of the parties concerned.

Ceausescu's Son Arrives With Message for Mubarak
NC150512 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 15 May 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 15 May (MENA) — Nicu Ceausescu, Romanian minister for youth problems, arrived in Cairo this evening with a message for President Husni Mubarak from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The message concerns the strengthening of cooperation between Egypt and Romania.

The Romanian minister, the son of President Ceausescu, is accompanied by a youth delegation. During its stay, which will last 3 days, the group will hold talks on bolstering the ties of friendship between young people in both countries. [passage omitted]

Spanish Industry Minister Arrives 15 May
NC15053 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 15 May (MENA) — Luis Carlos Crossier, Spanish minister of industry and energy, arrived in Cairo this evening on a 4-day official visit. The trip is in response to an invitation by Eng Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, who met his guest at the airport.

During his stay, the Spanish guest will meet with the ministers of war production and industry to discuss opportunities for industrial cooperation between the two countries.

Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi will receive the Spanish minister.

Meets 'Atif Sidqi
NC161524 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi met in his office today with Luis Carlos Crossier, Spanish minister of industry and energy, who is on a visit to Egypt.

The two officials' talks focused on ways to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of alternative energy sources and their use in new urban communities and in some industries. They also examined Egyptian-Spanish relations in light of what was agreed

on during the Spanish prime minister's visit to Egypt in January. Eng Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, also attended the meeting.

Energy Talks Begin
NC161307 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 May (MENA) — Official Egyptian-Spanish talks for technical cooperation in the field of electricity and nontraditional sources of energy began at the Electricity Ministry today. Eng Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, chaired the Egyptian side to the talks, while the Spaniards were led by Luis Carlos Crossier, minister of industry and energy.

In a statement following the talks, Eng Abazah said they had reviewed projects implemented under the bilateral protocol signed in 1985. The discussion also touched on some projects scheduled to be carried out within the second 5-year plan of the Egyptian Electricity Ministry and the Spanish Government's possible contribution to these projects, he added. The electricity minister noted that the talks had also dealt with the possibilities for establishing joint ventures in the field of electrical hardware and Spain's participation in implementing Egypt's nuclear power program. Eng Abazah noted that both sides had agreed to form a committee cochaired by the ministers of energy from the two countries. The committee will meet annually in either capital.

The new protocol defining the areas of bilateral technical cooperation in the fields of electricity and energy will be signed tomorrow. The Spanish minister began a 3-day visit to Egypt yesterday.

Cabinet Reviews New 5-Year Plan, Journalist Fund
*JN170756 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic
 15 May 87 pp 1, 20*

[Text] In a meeting that lasted until the early hours of yesterday morning chaired by Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi, the cabinet reviewed the new 5-year plan that comes into force on 1 July. The plan is designed to achieve an annual growth of 5.6 percent and create 2.1 million new job opportunities.

In light of statements by Deputy Prime Minister Kamal al-Janzuri, investments for the first year of the plan total 8.6 billion pounds including 2.8 billion for the private sector. Public sector investments in the first year will be financed as follows: 51 percent from the Investment Bank, 23 percent from internal financing, 7 percent from grants, 12 percent from loans, and 7 percent from foreign credit.

Total investment in the 5-year plan will amount to 46.5 billion pounds, including 18 billion pounds for the private sector. Investment for the public sector has been allocated as follows: 21 percent for replacement, renovation, and training projects; 30 percent for the completion of projects; and 49 percent for expansion and new projects.

The prime minister asserted that the new 5-year plan bolsters the national economy and raises the people's standard of living. It

also constitutes a form of national action on which all the efforts of the people and the executive branch converge. He said that the results of the first 5-year plan confirm the Egyptian people's determination to continue along the road of economic reform and to create the right conditions for future development plans. Sidqi said the plan proved it is possible to run the economy within fixed frameworks that lead to the drafting of long-term plans that ensure the economy's continuity.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said the most important features of the new 5-year plan and the plan for its first year is the increase in the GNP from 40.8 billion pounds in the present fiscal year to 43.1 billion pounds in the fiscal year 1987-88 and to 54.4 billion pounds in the last year of the new 5-year plan. New job opportunities will be allocated as follows: 45 percent for the production sectors, 38 percent for services, and 17 percent for infrastructure, trade, and finance.

Prime Minister Sidqi said the cabinet will hold a special meeting early next week to discuss the general state budget for the fiscal year 1987-88.

Al-Janzuri asserted that the new 5-year plan foresees a broader scope for national development efforts and enjoys greater freedom in setting priorities, identifying all resources and needs, and controlling the rise in economic performance. He said the plan seeks to strengthen the backbone of the economy to increase its capacity for absorption, while concentrating on population bal

ance. He said production lies at the heart of the plan, for increasing production will continue to be the decisive factor in accelerating development efforts and improving the performance of the national economy.

The cabinet also approved a bill to issue revenue stamps for the journalists' aid and pension fund. The revenue stamp will be levied on all clients of press organizations whatever their legal form and media agencies affiliated with them, and all newspapers and news agencies and their branches operating in Egypt. A 1-pound revenue stamp will be levied on social functions held by the journalists union; a 10-pound stamp will be levied on journalistic work abroad; a 2-pound stamp will be levied on work contracts; a 10-pound stamp will be levied on applications to register in the journalists union; and a 100-pound stamp will be levied on a license for a new publishing house. The journalists union will collect the revenue from the stamps and deposit them in the pension fund.

The Supreme Press Council approved the bill following a proposal by *Al-Ahram's* chief editor, Ibrahim Nafi', who is also chairman of the paper's board of directors and dean of journalists. Annual revenue from the stamps is expected to total 650,000 pounds in the first year of the law's life, and should make it possible to increase the pension paid by the union to retired journalists.

the scoundrels, inflicting losses in men and materiel on top of the following confirmed losses:

The damaging of a shovel [preceding word in English], the destruction of five infantry positions and the killing of those inside, the burning of a vehicle, and the destruction of an ammunition dump and a machinegun.

3. The heroic activities of our men in the I Army Corps northern sector resulted in the death or injury of a number of scoundrels, the destruction of three shelters with the loss of those inside, and the burning of a vehicle and two trucks. Sources of enemy fire were pounded and silenced elsewhere in the same sector.

4. Units from our formations in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan used their artillery to flatten a number of selected enemy positions opposite our men, inflicting important losses on the aggressors. Elsewhere in the same sector a vehicle was destroyed and its occupants were killed, a number of ammunition dumps were destroyed, and a number of fires were started on the enemy side.

5. One soldier was killed, an enemy vehicle carrying ammunition was destroyed, and three ammunition dumps were demolished in the VII Army Corps sector.

6. The tyrannical Khomeyniite clique shelled residential areas in Basra and Al-'Uzayr with long-range artillery. The enemy bombardment damaged civilian property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 May 1987

2 'Maritime' Targets Hit

JN171728 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 17 May 87

[Communique No 2,679 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 May 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave soldiers of Iraq, who are fighting for the sake of God and are the trusted keepers of the homeland's soil, have continued

their glorious defense of Iraq and its people against the aggression of the racist Zionist clique.

The following is a roundup of our combat activities for last night and today:

1. In implementation of our firm and legitimate policy of cutting off the oil supplies of the Iranian regime, which insists on using them to sow sedition and continue its aggression against our country, our heroic Air Force attacked one very large and another large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 0908 and 1220 today. After dealing them accurate and effective blows, our planes returned safely to the homeland, praise be to God.

2. The enemy sent seven of its boats in an abortive attempt to approach the port of Al-'Amiq. Our brave naval units intercepted them and destroyed one, sinking it with all the scoundrels aboard. The others fled in disappointment and defeat.

3. Our units used artillery, tanks, and mortars to pound enemy troops in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. They destroyed three infantry positions and an observation post, demolished two ammunition dumps, and disrupted enemy engineering operations.

4. Four enemy scoundrels were killed and quantities of hardware abandoned by the enemy on the battlefield in the Special I Army Corps Allahu Akbar Forces sector were seized.

5. At 1159 today two enemy F-5 aircraft penetrated our international border in the northern sector to strike at residential areas in the city of Dahuk. Our air defenses intercepted them and hit one, while the second fled.

6. The despotic Khomeyniite clique shelled residential districts in Basra and its suburbs with long-range artillery, damaging civilian property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 May 1987

Minister Sees 'Strong Possibility' of Elections
JN170836 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
 17 May 87 pp 1, 3

[By Rana Sabbagh and Salamah B. Ni'mat]

[Text] Amman — Voter registration for parliamentary elections reached a new level on Saturday, reaching 850,000 of the 1.2 million people eligible for voting, according to statistics released by the Ministry of Interior.

The figure is expected to reach nearly one million by the end of the deadline, which has been extended from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sunday evening.

The sharp rise in voter registration came amid reports of increasing support for new parliamentary elections in the Kingdom.

Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Sami Jawdah said Saturday that it was more likely than not that parliamentary elections would be held before the end of the year.

"There is a strong possibility there will be elections," Dr. Jawdah told the *Jordan Times*. "If His Majesty the King does not extend Parliament's term by the end of September, elections would be inevitable." Dr. Jawdah's statement of the government's view was echoed by other Cabinet members.

"As a government member," one minister said, "I feel there is a definite need for a new Parliament. I am convinced all the government is in support of such a step," the minister, who asked not to be identified by name, said. However, he added, "unless there were unforeseen developments, elections definitely have to take place." He did not elaborate.

According to the constitution, the King is empowered to extend Parliament's term for one or two extra years. The current Parliament's mandate officially ends by mid-January, but an apparently growing government support for holding elections added momentum to voter registration and gave rise to public expectations.

By Saturday evening, nearly 850,000 Jordanians had registered their names at various voter registration centres throughout the Kingdom.

Ministry of Interior Under-Secretary Ahmad al-'Aqayilah said that the turnout was based on numbers obtained from the 700 registration centres by Saturday noon, four hours before closing time.

Amman Governorate, where nearly one third of the population lives, ranked first with 243,954 registered voters by mid-Saturday, followed by Irbid Governorate with 218,721, al-Zarqa' with 80,000, al-Balqa' with 73,478, Karak with 49,879 and Mafraq with 35,905.

According to official statistics, 1.2 million out of Jordan's 2.8 million citizens living in the East Bank are eligible voters, who are above 19 years of age.

Some observers described the turnout of 850,000 — recorded over the past 13 days — as "a good percentage." The given turnout figures represent 71 per cent of the total 1.2 million potential voters.

Based on the outcome of the previous by-election which was held in Jordan since 1984, the expected turnout at polling centres in a possible parliamentary election is estimated at 40 to 45 per cent of the registered voters.

Although they were not ready to provide accurate figures immediately, officials at the Department of Statistics said that the estimates were "very reasonable." Voter registration figures are considered high in view of the slow pace witnessed during the first week of registration. The figure is expected to rise as citizens will have the chance to "complain" in the period between June 7 and June 13 if their names were missing from registration lists, copies of which would be displayed outside every registration centre.

Officials expected the registration number to come close to one million by closing time on Sunday. The deadline was extended to 6:30 p.m. from the previously scheduled 4:00 p.m.

Electioneering by hopeful candidates and their supporters showed a high level of effectiveness as it was cited by many as the main driving force behind voter registration. A recent survey by the *Jordan Times* indicated that most of the registration had been carried out by candidates and their supporters who had collected civil registration books from citizens for that purpose.

Labour unions, professional associations, governors, mayors, dignitaries and others took part in visible campaigns in favour of voter registration.

Lebanese Forces Said To Form 'Shadow Ministries'

NC180806 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 0300 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] The increased tension in East Beirut may soon turn into open hostilities. There were reports yesterday of clashes in 'Ayn al-Rummanah that later spread to areas near Al-Matn, as well as unusual troop deployments and movements of military vehicles in East Beirut.

Reports from East Beirut speak of a clash in (Durat al-Turmuk) at 1700 yesterday, in which two supporters of Al-Jumayyil are said to have been killed. This was followed by another clash, involving the use of rockets, in 'Ayn al-Rummanah at 1830.

The Lebanese Forces tried to camouflage the conflict in East Beirut by starting provocations across the Beirut demarcation line at 1900. They also began searching houses in Al-Hadath in East Beirut at 2200.

According to sources in the Lebanese Forces, these searches were conducted to find a number of individuals wanted for crimes, but other reports indicate that the army was put on alert in the areas where the searches were being carried out. These reports state that followers of Fu'ad Abu Nadir within the Lebanese Forces were the real targets of the house-to-house searches.

Samir Ja'ja', commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, put his troops on alert prior to this current tension, mentioning several times that his forces intended to carry out a certain plan if President al-Jumayyil did not accept the government resignation. Well-informed sources in East Beirut say Ja'ja' intends to form a national Christian council from members of the Lebanese Front, made up of George Sa'adah, Edward Hunayn, Dani Sham'un, Abu Arz, and Fu'ad al-Bustani, along with certain figures from the Lebanese Forces Command Council and heads of the monastic orders. This council, the sources say, would bar Camille Sham'un.

The reason given by Ja'ja' supporters for such a move is that the government resignation, which followed on the heels of the ministerial boycott, has left a complete vacuum that must be filled. Therefore, in order to fill the void, the Lebanese Forces will establish backup organs [ajhizah radifah] to act as shadow ministries [wazarat dhil] and take over the functions of the current ministries pending the formation of a new government.

According to sources in the Lebanese Forces, as long as the president does not accept the government's resignation, the Lebanese Forces will work to fill the current vacuum. The Lebanese Forces, the sources add, will take charge of the areas under their control in East Beirut and will issue a special currency called the Lebanese (luba) that will be equivalent to 10 cents; that is, \$1 for every 10 (luba). The amount of currency issued will be covered by equal dollar reserves at the Central Bank branch in [word indistinct], which will, under this partitionist move, function as bank headquarters.

Figures React To President's Stand on Karami

Ja'ja' Notes 'Disagreement'

NC151820 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] In an interview to be published in the magazine *Al-Masirah* tomorrow, Lebanese Forces commander Dr Samir Ja'ja' has reiterated the Lebanese Forces' stand on the question of [Prime Minister] Karami's resignation and all its ramifications. He said: For 1 and 1/2 years we have been coordinating our stands with the president. All our efforts have been focused on trying to get rid of Karami and his government and make some kind of breakthrough. When Karami did quit, President al-Jumayyil surprised us by refraining from accepting the resignation.

Ja'ja' added: All the reasons and excuses we have heard are unconvincing and do not justify this hesitation in accepting the long-awaited resignation.

He continued: The president has no reason or justification for postponing a decision. The truth is that such a decision is a momentous one. There is also the question of fear of Syria.

The Lebanese Forces commander said: President al-Jumayyil was wrong to hesitate; he should have accepted the resignation immediately. Therefore, he is responsible for any consequences that might arise. Moreover, by not accepting the resignation, the president makes himself as responsible as the prime minister for all the political and economic misfortunes that have befallen the country in the past year.

Dr Ja'ja' warned that the economic situation will deteriorate further if the resignation is not accepted and the president leaves the situation as it is now. He added: If things stay as they are, we will be obliged to call a spade a spade and take a different stand from that of the president. We will continue our efforts to break the impasse. He continued: However, should the resignation be accepted, the next step must be the formation of a new government.

He affirmed that he opposes any attempt to keep the present government in office, to enlarge it, or to ask Karami to form a new government, because then we would be back where we started. He noted that there are several Islamic figures qualified to become prime minister, from Mufti Hasan Khalid to any member of the Chamber of Deputies.

Dr Ja'ja' said: We are at the beginning of a disagreement with the president. However, it is a limited dispute, confined to the subject of the resignation. If the reasons for this disappear, the disagreement itself will disappear. Former President Sham'un's response to these conflicting views has been to adopt a middle-of-the-road approach in a bid to reconcile the sons of the same community. His stand is good. We understand his motives very well.

Dr Ja'ja' stressed that this disagreement will not affect the unity of ranks or deeply held beliefs on fundamental matters, nor is there any danger of its developing into a military showdown.

The Lebanese Forces commander denied that his insistence on the formation of a new government is due to a desire to have the Lebanese Forces represented in it. He indicated that what matters to the Lebanese Forces is that a government be formed — a government that meets, a government of technocrats that can tackle the crisis and devote itself to solving economic and social problems.

Birri Lauds Al-Jumayyil

*NC161432 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 16 May 87*

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, has praised the president's position on Prime Minister Rashid Karami's resignation, saying it preserves Lebanon's unity. He added that the president has not been affected by the terrorism exercised against him in East Beirut.

In an interview with journalists this afternoon, Minister Birri maintained that talk on the need to accept the resignation and dreams of establishing a new government are a leap into the unknown. He stressed that the talks between Lebanon and Syria must be continued and intensified to reach an agreement on power sharing and the terms of a national accord. When such an agreement is concluded, the minister said, the present government can be revived or, if necessary, its resignation can be accepted and a new government formed on the basis of the new accord.

Minister Birri praised the 1st Brigade as a model not only of a national army but of coexistence among Lebanese, and denounced the attack on Major Jamil al-Sayyid, the brigade's intelligence chief.

Minister Birri also expressed surprise at the attacks against him and Minister Joseph Skaf for attempting to return displaced people to their homes. He said a meeting will be held next week to study possible measures to return residents of Maghdushah and Zighdraya to their homes.

Junblatt Calls For Al-Jumayyil's Removal

*NC171924 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 17 May 87*

[Speech by PSP leader Walid Junblatt at a rally in Al-Shuwayfat on 17 May in memory of the town's martyrs — recorded]

[Text] Comrades, honorable people: It is necessary to clarify some points with regard to formalities. Kamal Junblatt was not great because he was a leader, a president, or a teacher, but because he was just. He defended what is right until he was martyred. For the first and last time, let us stop using titles such as leader, president, or teacher in order to get away from formalities and not to forget the essence for which thousands of people from the Lebanese national movement and the Palestinian revolution and for which hundreds and thousands of comrades in the Syrian Arab Army were martyred. We will not forget their

sacrifices in this triangle — the triangle of national and pan-Arab steadfastness.

As for the substance, we do not care whether Rashid Effendi [Karami] resigns [applause] or whether he stays, and whether Al-Jumayyil accepts his resignation or not. We are the people; the authority; the decision-makers; the legitimacy. [applause]

We in the PSP, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, the Lebanese Communist Party, and the Ba'th Party organization are all one party, and will remain so. I will only say that the Lebanese national, Palestinian, and Syrian rifles must unite to reduce the distance and to save Al-Shuwayfat, the southern suburb, and the south, and to make certain that new accords that may be more dangerous than the 17 May agreement are not imposed on us. I believe we have already paid a high price, and I hope no further sacrifices will be needed. I hope we will be able to provide the new generation with schools, hospitals, roads, and flower gardens.

Let us, o my comrades in the Syrian Arab Army, in the national movement, in the Palestinian revolution [applause], direct those tanks and launchers toward B'abda and remove the shah [Al-Jumayyil]. [applause] Only then can we eliminate the 17 May agreement and its causes. Only then can the palaces of exploitation, feudalism, robbery, and crime fall. Only then can we together, in a united national and pan-Arab movement, liberate southern Lebanon; and only then can we open the borders from Al-Naqrurah to the Golan to Jordan, and liberate Palestine. Peace be upon you.

Karami on Syrian Talks, International Conference

*NC161209 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 16 May 87*

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami today made a lengthy statement at a meeting of the Northern Coordination Committee. He dealt with topical issues — mainly the question of his resignation, results of the 12th round of Lebanese-Syrian negotiations, and the importance of convening an international conference on peace in the Middle East and its effects on the situation in Lebanon.

Prime Minister Karami began by referring to the results of the recent discussions in Damascus. He stressed that they produced no positive or fruitful results, saying: We find ourselves in the vicious circle again. The basic demand remains that of power sharing. In other words, we are insisting on the rule of institutions, not individuals. He emphasized that if the other party continues to be obdurate and refuses to agree to the desired reforms to the regime's structure and form of rule, the stagnation will continue. He said he believes this would bring more harm to all citizens.

Prime Minister Karami demanded that everyone rise above ambitions and desires at the expense of public interests. He declared that he resigned in order to awaken everyone to their general responsibilities and convince them to serve the aspirations of all Lebanese.

Shultz added that at the international conference the United States would raise President Reagan's 1982 initiative, which focuses on putting Judaea and Samaria under Jordanian responsibility. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent reports that Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he was not surprised by Shultz' speech, and added that he is opposed to the Reagan plan. In his opinion, there is no need to raise any plan whatsoever until negotiations begin, because this would lead to a postponement of the talks.

Dubinin Meeting

TA180447 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 18 May 87

[Report over the telephone from Washington by correspondent Shim'on Schiffer — live]

[Text] A few minutes ago Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres left his hotel room here to make his way to New York by private plane in order to catch the plane that will take him back to Israel to deal with the latest developments, but before that he told us about his meeting with Yuriy Dubinin, the Soviet ambassador here in Washington.

The meeting was held in Edgar Bronfman's apartment, because Mr Peres refused to hold it at the Soviet Embassy. Mr Peres returned very encouraged from the meeting, which lasted over 90 minutes. He told us the Soviets want to be updated on the latest developments. We explained our positions, which you know; we did not expect to receive answers at this meeting. However, Mr Peres does expect the USSR to answer the questions raised during the talk.

The conversation was held in an excellent atmosphere, Peres said. They initiated the meeting, and they said that it is further proof of the process of renewing full relations between Israel and the Soviet Union. The Soviet ambassador was very critical of political life in Israel. To this, Mr Peres replied: We have learned all this from you, from the Soviet system.

With regard to the renewal of relations, let us again repeat that Ambassador Yuriy Dubinin quoted General Secretary Gorbachev, saying that it is not normal that the two countries do not maintain diplomatic relations. Israel will now wait for the answers from the Soviet Union.

Shamir 'Not Interested' in Peres Report on Talks

TA171655 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 17 May 87

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has said that he does not expect any report whatsoever from Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres who is now in the United States. I am not interested, Shamir said. The prime minister hopes to finalize the negotiations between Likud and SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] this evening.

Our correspondent Elihu Ben-On interviewed the prime minister upon emerging from an awards ceremony for outstanding civil servants held at the Knesset building a short time ago.

[Begin recording] [Ben-On] Sir, you are now emerging from an awards ceremony for civil servants. Would you give such a prize to a very senior servant, Shim'on Peres?

[Shamir] Well, this is altogether another issue pertaining to politics. It is not a question of awarding prizes although the same letters are involved [pun on Hebrew rendering of Peres' name].

[Ben-On] Have you received a report from him about what he has been doing in Washington?

[Shamir] I am not expecting any report. I am not interested.

[Ben-On] Mr Shamir, is it clear that Mr Peres is not conducting any negotiations whatsoever on the question of an international conference?

[Shamir] I think he has no mandate or authority whatsoever to conduct negotiations on behalf of the Israeli Government on this issue.

[Ben-On] Mr Shamir, has the country — the economy, to cite one example — been adversely affected?

[Shamir] I do not think the economy has been affected, at least I hope not. However, damage will be caused if we are thrown into a whirlwind of elections.

[Ben-On] Do you think elections will be brought forward now that Shinuy has quit the government?

[Shamir] There is no connection there. I hope that elections will not at all be brought forward.

[Ben-On] What do you think about Minister Rubinstein's quitting the government?

[Shamir] I am personally sorry about it.

[Ben-On] Did he make a contribution to the government?

[Shamir] Certainly, yes.

[Ben-On] Do you think the Alignment will follow suit?

[Shamir] That you must ask the Alignment. [passage omitted]

POST Sees Lack of U.S. Political Drive on Peace

TA170734 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
17 May 87 p 8

[Editorial: "D.C. Without Current"]

[Text] For years, Israeli leaders appealed to King Husayn to agree to direct negotiations but without result. Now when the king, for an assortment of reasons, is willing to take the plunge

— though suited up in an "international conference" — it is Israel's government, paralyzed by the discord of unity, that cannot reciprocate. But that is only one of the historic ironies that now plagues Mr Peres's two-year long effort to crank up the peace process that stalled after 1979. Another such irony is to be sought in U.S. policy.

From the end of the Six-Day War, Washington made it plain to all that it does not acknowledge the political legitimacy of Israel's control of all the territories captured in that conflict. At the same time, it recognized the security values inherent in that control and thus agreed with Israel that they should only be surrendered for peace, and for peace reached in negotiations.

So long as the Arab side was unwilling to negotiate, this U.S. position enabled a wide band of convergence with Israel. That convergence persisted despite occasional American attempts to engineer negotiation processes that would spare the Arabs direct talks with Israel. But those attempts always failed, not least because Israel was able to squelch them, or because the Arabs raised the ante.

Yet it was also acknowledged, especially in Israel and Washington, that if negotiations were one day to begin and lead somewhere, this could only occur with the active, indeed very active, involvement of the U.S. If there were any doubts, the long negotiations with Egypt, capped at Camp David, dispelled them. Though Mr Begin's initial overture to Anwar al-Sadat, and the Egyptian leader's dramatic response, were not at all fruits of American diplomacy in 1977 — in fact counter reactions to it — the talks that ensued would not have been consummated in agreement without the energetic participation of President Carter.

But now, when the conditions have again be created for a new diplomatic push to resolve the Arab-Israel conflict, it is the U.S. Administration that has appeared otherwise occupied. True, Mr Peres's painstaking choreography devised to make it possible for King Husayn to brave the stage together with Israel, has been nourished by the help of U.S. diplomatic professionals. However, at the political level in Washington there has been scepticism and reluctance.

President Reagan has shown no eagerness to commit his prestige or attention to the subject. And Secretary of State George Shultz has been tepid, perhaps unaware that this only warmed the resolve of Mr Shamir to obstruct Mr Peres's effort. Only in the past month or so has Mr Shultz shown signs of realizing that genuine opportunity beckons, that what has been put together is agreement between Jordan and Israel, sanctioned by Egypt, for an authentic negotiation process. This agreement, has, to be sure, American diplomatic support. What it has lacked, however, is the signature of American political drive.

In the last fortnight, Mr Shultz has tried to make up for lost time while Mr Reagan has waved gently from the sidelines. However, in the meantime, Israel's two governments, which can no longer even pretend to be one, have tunnelled into opposing bunkers, hampering a Washington that is loath to appear as taking sides. Mr Peres is now presumably seeking to persuade Mr Shultz that an irreversible process, leading to elections in Israel, is underway.

And that the U.S. should uncork its political energy to sustain the agreements already reached, so that after such elections, if not before, negotiations can be launched.

That may be an optimistic assessment. In the meantime, the pessimists, and the nay sayers of the Likud, have the upper hand, beneficiaries of the historic irony that when King Husayn, after all these years, seemed ready to lift the phone, Israel's line was out of order and Washington's engaged.

Ben-Aharon: Moscow Agrees to Direct Flights

TA151112 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 May 87 p 2

[Report from United States by Amnon Dankner]

[Excerpt][passage omitted] In a talk with Israeli correspondents last night, Prime Minister's Office Director General Yosef Ben-Aharon said his impression from his meetings with senior U.S. Administration officials was that they understand that an additional effort should be made to further the peace process after "the air has been cleared over the international conference". He said a pause is needed for tempers to cool, after which efforts should be renewed, with the Americans, to bring about direct negotiations on the basis of the Camp David agreements. Ben-Aharon said the Likud also understands that Husayn needs an international umbrella, but not one in the form of an international conference with the participation of the Soviet Union, as Peres is proposing, but one provided by a regional conference with the participation of the United States.

Ben-Aharon emphasized that his U.S. interlocutors had not expressed any disappointment or bitterness to him over the failure of the latest move. However, people had told him that it was important not to leave a vacuum which the Soviet Union would fill.

The Americans asked of Ben-Aharon that the Israeli Government come up with new ideas. Ben-Aharon admitted that the current situation, in which Israel is speaking to Washington in two voices, is unpleasant. "We are not at our best here," he said.

On another issue, Ben-Aharon said that in the talks held between Israeli and Soviet officials, Moscow had agreed to direct flights for Jews from the Soviet Union to Israel, and expressed the hope that this would soon be implemented.

Likud Ministers Pressure Shamir To Replace Peres

TA151325 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 15 May 87 p 2

[Report by Pe'erli Shahar]

[Text] Likud ministers are putting pressure on Shamir to replace Shim'on Peres' Cabinet portfolio, just as Peres did with Moda'i after claiming he could not continue to work as prime minister with Moda'i. This has been learned by HADASHOT. The same ministers claim: "If Peres was unable to work with Moda'i as finance minister, how can Shamir work with Peres as foreign minister with Peres explaining a policy that conflicts with that of the government."

U.S. To Blame for 'Deterioration' of Relations

*JN161427 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 16 May 87*

[Station commentary]

[Text] American officials never tire of dealing with the question of relations with Syria. From time to time they make statements to the American and world public with aims that are actually unclear. If they intend to hurt these ties, we say that these relations have nothing positive to them, and cannot be hurt any further. If they want to improve them, then we say the content, wording, and context of these statements are not conducive to improving these relations and show no sincere desire to improve ties and raise them to the level of normal relations between two states which are not hostile to one another.

For instance, the U.S. State Department spokesman made a statement on relations with Syria in which he said: The United States will not send its ambassador to Syria at present. The United States is waiting for Syria to implement certain conditions before diplomatic relations between the two sides are restored to normal.

One of the conditions which Charles Redman mentioned is that Syria must stop supporting terrorism. It is surprising that a spokesman of a superpower should stoop to so pitiable a level in his talk about relations with another state. It is known the United States was the one which ruined relations with Syria. It was the one which leveled baseless accusations against Syria which were proved to be false and fabricated. It was the United States which recalled its ambassador and announced a number of hostile measures against Syria.

It is also well-known that Syria did not beg the United States Government to rescind its awkward measures and has never asked that the United States reconsider its decision to recall the U.S. ambassador to Damascus.

Then to whom are Redman and all the senior officials who stand behind him directing their remarks? Are they directing these remarks to Syria? It is time the U.S. rulers realize Syria cannot be taken in by big talk, cannot be threatened or dictated to, and will not retreat as a result of threats or appeasements. Life continues to be normal after the departure of the U.S. ambassador from Damascus and will continue to be normal with or without the presence of a U.S. ambassador. The U.S. Administration can keep its ambassador in Washington for as long as it deems necessary. Surely those who recalled the ambassador will ask for permission to send him back or send someone to replace him.

In all cases, the United States is the party responsible for the level which relations with Syria have reached. It is the one which can improve these relations or further increase their deterioration. The United States has no right to impose conditions on Syria for restoring relations to normal. Indeed, it is Syria which has the right to ask the United States to stop its hostile policy and instigations against Syria; the state terrorism which Washington is practicing against other peoples and states; the provocative measures which the United States implemented and which it asked other states to implement against Syria; and the U.S. policy of extending financial, military, and political support to the Israeli aggression and occupation. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones at others, and the United States, which embodies collective and individual terrorism as well as state terrorism, cannot accuse others of being terrorists.

Syria's stand against terrorism is a principled one. Through President Hafiz al-Asad, Syria has called for an international conference to define and explain terrorism. The United States has so far been reluctant to approve holding this conference. Within its policy hostile to national liberation movements, the United States is trying to brand these movements as terrorist and to present imperialist and racist operations as a form of resistance against this terrorism. This attempt is bound to fail. No country in the world exploits its diplomatic relations with other states for objectives which are outside the international community's rules and regulations as the United States does. Indeed, the United States tries to force other states to follow it in this regard. On the other hand, Syria is eager to have normal relations with all countries based on mutual respect, noninterference in internal affairs, and compliance with principles of international law.

Syria cannot be blamed if its relations with a certain state is below the level of ordinary relations. Syria is eager to preserve its dignity, independence, and national sovereignty and considers this a matter of life and death. Syria vehemently opposes any external interference in its internal affairs.

The present U.S. Administration is responsible for the deterioration of relations with Syria. While presenting certain stands and conditions for rectifying its actions against Syrian-U.S. relations with the aim of achieving cheap propaganda gains, the United States should also remember that maintaining harmony between the declared positions and the covert messages which are sent by various means is much better for the United States than taking open stands which contradict stands made in secret contacts. For its part, Syria does not resort to contradicting stands. Syria's word is one, and both its overt and covert stands are the same.

Peres Visits U.S.; Meets Shultz, Dubinin**Comments on Peace Process**

TA160434 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 16 May 87

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says he does not need permission from anyone for his policies. He told Jewish leaders in New York that the Israeli Government was not Shamir's but a government of two equal parties. He said he would press ahead with his plans for an international Middle East peace conference. He said that four Arab countries — Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Syria — wanted to keep the PLO out of the conference. He told the Jewish leaders to forget what was being said publicly and pointed to the PLO's problems with the four countries he named. He said that the Arabs realized that they had to make a clear choice between peace and fundamentalism.

Earlier Peres said he had not come to the United States to seek American intervention in Israel's internal politics. The Americans should decide on the peace process, not on what happened in Israel. [passage omitted]

Comments on Shultz Meeting

TA170504 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] The vice prime minister and foreign minister will meet early this evening with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz for the second time in 24 hours. [passage omitted] Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports from New York.

[Begin recording] [Schiffer] The atmosphere was very good, but the problems have remained unchanged. These were remarks made by Minister Peres upon leaving the meeting with Secretary Shultz. In contrast, Shultz refused to make any comment on the meeting. Incidentally, most of the reports on the recent moves regarding Middle East and U.S. involvement have so far emanated from Israeli sources.

[Peres] We sat down and covered all possibilities, and will continue to do so tomorrow. In fact, today's talks were devoted to assessing the situation, and tomorrow we will try to find ways to promote the peace process.

[Schiffer] If I asked you to define the U.S. position at this stage, what would you say, Mr Peres?

[Peres] The position of the Americans has not changed, just as my position has not changed. In other words, the goal is that of direct talks, and if it is possible to reach direct talks through an international opening, then we say yes to this. I think we also thoroughly discussed the conditions for Soviet participation today. Both the secretary and I repeated the two conditions for this to make sure that they are not eroded.

[Schiffer] The issue of conditions for Soviet participation in the international conference was raised in the talk by Secretary Shultz, who turned to Mr Peres and said he had heard reports to the effect that the Israeli foreign minister had changed his

position on this. Mr Peres rushed to declare that his position on these conditions is unchanged: full resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel, the granting of exit visas to Soviet Jews to leave for Israel, and an improvement in the general attitude toward the Jewish community there.

Today, as said, the two personages will meet for the second time. Nothing dramatic can be expected from Washington. As I was told by a reliable observer following the U.S. Administration's positions: The Washington policymakers believe that Mr Peres jumped with the Jordanian document too fast and too far. Peres has created an internal crisis in Israel making it difficult for the U.S. Administration to publicly support him today, even if the United States believes his approach is the way to solve the Middle East conflict. [end recording]

'Secret Moves' Planned

TA180513 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
18 May 87 pp 1, 12

[Report by Orli Azulay-Katz with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' entourage in the United States]

[Excerpts] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz agreed in their second — and most important — meeting yesterday on various secret moves to stimulate the peace process in the near future until the Israeli Governments makes a decision on the issue.

It has been learned that several important meetings will soon be held in the Middle East between U.S. and Arab officials. At the same time, Shultz will check whether a dialogue can be launched with the Soviets so that they may take part in an international conference according to the terms posed by Peres. [passage omitted]

The two men were unanimous in their assessment that not enough had been done to bring the Soviets around on the conference issue. Peres noted that in his opinion, the Soviets are not even close to the conditions set by Israel of "diplomatic relations and a liberal emigration policy." Shultz said that the United States would explore ways to begin talks with the Soviets. Peres and Shultz agreed that the Soviets should be brought into the picture in an orderly manner. [passage omitted]

Peres Opposes Reagan Plan

TA180503 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 18 May 87

[Excerpts] Our Washington correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that in an important speech outlining U.S. policy in the Middle East, Secretary of State Shultz said that there had recently been genuine progress in contacts with Jordan, and that King Husayn had proved that he is serious and willing to enter into direct negotiations. As for the Palestinian representation, Shultz commented that Palestinians would only be able to participate within the framework of the Jordanian delegation, and would have to be those who accepted UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and condemned violence and terrorism.

Yesterday, at a meeting with students from the Likud cells in the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem Universities, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said: "The issue of the international conference has been dropped from the agenda. The country will not deal with it any more." Shamir added: "Anyone who continues to talk of an international conference is speaking for himself alone, not for the government. It is now clear to all elements in the international arena that Israel will not go to a conference, and it is clear that without Israel there will be no such conference."

In answer to a question about whether Peres would continue to talk about the international conference issue abroad, Shamir said: "If Peres speaks about an international conference, we will check and decide what measures to take. Let us not get excited about the statements Peres made yesterday. Nothing in this matter of a conference will continue as it has up until now."

People in Shamir's office reacted with anger yesterday to the fact that the Foreign Ministry has refused to send the Israeli representations abroad the government position on the issue of the international conference as formulated by the prime minister.

People in the Labor Party do not dismiss the possibility that Peres will announce his personal resignation from the Cabinet with the aim of not leaving the defense portfolio in Likud hands, and will continue to promote his initiatives.

Shinuy Withdraws From Government Coalition
TA170811 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Minister Amnon Rubinstein informed the prime minister this morning that the Shinuy Movement is withdrawing from the coalition and that he is resigning from his post of communications minister. The Shinuy Movement told our correspondent Razi Barqay that it is hoped that the withdrawal will speed up the Labor Party's withdrawal from the government.

At the end of his meeting with Labor Party members, Knesset Member Yitzhaq Peretz made it clear that it has not yet been decided whether or not SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] will support early elections. It seems that SHAS and Labor Party representatives will meet again this Tuesday, after Minister Peres returns from the United States. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz notes that the SHAS Council of Torah Scholars will discuss this matter today.

Rubinstein Explains Withdrawal
TA171124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Minister Amnon Rubinstein says that three reasons led him to recommend to the Shinuy Council that Shinuy withdraw

from the coalition: A) the lack of possibilities that Minister Shim'on Peres' peace initiative will be accepted; B) the paralysis in the government's performance; C) Likud's courting of SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim], which is essentially an anti-Zionist movement. This was defined as the last straw. According to Rubinstein, the Likud's proposals to SHAS violate the government's basic guidelines, particularly the clause which states that the status quo on religious matters must not be changed. Minister Rubinstein says he is convinced that the Shinuy Council will adopt his proposal and has called on the Labor Party to follow suit and withdraw from the government.

Likud Minister Hayim Corfu rejected Minister Rubinstein's claims, stating that the Likud is not surrendering to the religious parties and is not violating the government's basic guidelines.

Labor Party Minister Moshe Shahal said that Minister Rubinstein's criticisms are totally acceptable to him and that the Alignment will have to discuss the implications of Shinuy's withdrawal from the government.

Shamir Favors Lubrani as New Ambassador to U.S.
TA170437 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Uri Lubrani is said to be the prime minister's choice for Israel's next ambassador to the United States. Lubrani currently serves as coordinator of Israeli policy for southern Lebanon. Earlier, Foreign Minister Peres proposed naming Tel Aviv University Professor Itamar Rabinowitz for the post. Israel's current ambassador is due to complete his tour of duty in the next few weeks.

Tabah Compromise Rejected; Arbitration Continues
TA151146 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
15 May 87 p 2

[Report from Geneva by Yosef Alpern]

[Text] Israel has not succeeded in persuading Egypt to stop the process of arbitration over Tabah and come to a compromise outside the arbitration framework. This was said to our correspondent yesterday by an Israeli source who asked that his identity not be made public.

The Foreign Ministry's legal adviser said that the atmosphere in the round of talks that ended last night was "businesslike," and that he had invited the president of the arbitration team to visit Tabah.

The Israeli and Egyptian delegations spelled out their claims and held a 45-minute "technical" session in the presence of the head arbitrator. There will be another session on 12 October.

ALGERIA

Israelis Held After February Raid on Annaba
NC151629 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
 1545 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Quoting Arab diplomatic sources, the [Lebanese] magazine *Al-Kifah Al-'Arabi* reports that an Israeli unit launched a seaborne assault on the Algerian port of Annaba in February and destroyed three gunboats and two civilian ships.

The magazine says that there was a great clash between guards at the port and the attackers, resulting in casualties. It adds that eight Israelis were taken prisoner by the Algerians. The West German Government is currently negotiating on behalf of the captured Israelis. Thus far, neither Algeria nor Israel has commented on this report.

LIBYA

PLO's Qaddumi Arrives, Praises Al-Qadhdhafi
LD171713 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
 1600 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Brother Faruq Qaddumi, chairman of the PLO's Political Department, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyyah.

He was accompanied by Brothers Jawid al-Ghusayn, chairman of the Palestinian National Fund Council, and Abu 'Ali Mustafa and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, members of the organization's Executive Committee.

Brother Qaddumi praised the tremendous efforts made by the brother leader of the revolution to unify the Palestinian resistance factions.

In a statement to JANA, he said: The work being done by Brother Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has been prominent in backing this unifying trend and in achieving this outstanding step toward unified Palestinian action and stronger efforts. He added: The purpose of this trip is to reinforce relations with our brothers in the Great Jamahiriyyah, beside whom we stand to face up to imperialism and Zionism and their agents in the region.

SUDAN

Cubans Reported Fighting Beside Rebels in South
NC160824 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0812 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 May (MENA) — The Sudanese weekly magazine *Adwa* reports that Cuban soldiers have participated with rebels in military operations in southern Sudan. It adds that hundreds of Cuban soldiers stationed in Ethiopia were moved about a month ago to the Jumayliyah area near Equatoria Province, on the border with Ethiopia.

Ethiopian Troops Kill Six on Eastern Border
JN171140 Khartoum SUNA in English
 1050 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, May 17 (SUNA) ... Six Sudanese citizens were killed and another seven wounded while three considered missed during attacks launched yesterday by the Ethiopian troops on the eastern joint borders, the daily *Al-Ushbu* published today reported.

The daily said that three Ethiopian tanks fired rockets on a Sudanese truck in Burmah area near Kassala, eastern Sudan and blew it up.

A Sudanese armed force rushed to the scene but found the Ethiopian tanks had already withdrawn, the daily said.

The daily pointed that the same area last Friday witnessed a similar incident when a truck was blown up by a planted mine in which one person was immediately killed and another four injured.

Al-Mirghani on Ruling Coalition, New Government
EA152050 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
 1930 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani has confirmed the strength of the ruling coalition. He said the request for the cabinet's dismissal will take its constitutional course pending the formation of a new government within days. He added that there is cause for concern in the coalition between the Al-Ummah and Democratic Unionist parties.

In an interview with *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*, he expressed his belief that there will be no changes to the structure of the State Council.

He said the question of forming a national government is the business of the leaders of the coalition parties. He pointed out that the government's performance was satisfactory.

SUNA Reports on Consultations To Form Government
JN171212 Khartoum SUNA in English
 1055 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, May 17 (SUNA)...The surprising radio and television announcement by Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi four days ago on relieving the cabinet from their duties is still overwhelming the country's political forum.

The daily *Al-Ayyam* published today said that Al-Mahdi's intention is to give rooms for some elements from the opposition Islamic National Front "INF" in the upcoming government although a number of his party's leaders are strongly opposing such trend.

Commenting on the impact of Al-Mahdi's announcement on the Democratic Unionist Party (the partner in the coalition) the daily *Al-Ayyam* said that the coalition between the two parties was

indistinct] economic frameworks. As a result of this agreement, the IMF will provide Uganda with a loan of \$24 million immediately under the Structural Adjustment Facility, SAF. An extra \$32 million under this facility will be provided over the next 2 years.

In addition, the fund will provide Uganda with a further \$20 million under the compensatory finance facility. Unlike in the past, the government has not entered into any standby agreement with the fund at this moment. This choice has been dictated by the fact that the above two facilities, unlike the standby, are (?low) conditionality, with low interest charges, with long grace periods.

The World Bank will also put at Uganda's disposal about \$100 million under the economic recovery credit. In addition, the project partly or fully sponsored by the World Bank will continue uninterrupted. In collaboration with the World Bank, the government will convene a consultative group meeting early next month at which a number of donors are expected to give further support to the country's economic recovery program and investment plan.

The resources raised under the economic recovery credits, which are expected to be in the form of a [word indistinct] concessionary loans or grants will be utilized to alleviate the key bottlenecks in the economy and to facilitate short-run recovery economic activities. These will include the purchase of industrial outputs, essential supplies, and other immediate requirements for agriculture, transport and health, plus education.

It is through this economic recovery program that government expects to bring about a quick turnaround in the country. To supplement these resources, a special meeting of Uganda's creditors will also be convened next month under the Paris Club to reschedule our debts to the outside world. At present, Uganda's debt obligation entered into by the previous regime stands at over \$200 million a year. This government expects to reschedule debts totaling about \$100 million. The debt relief will enable the country to utilize more of her foreign exchange earnings for stimulating further exports, imports substitution, and other economic recovery activities.

As far as the financing of the investment plan is concerned, the government is expecting support from the international community. In this regard, a number of countries and financial institutions have already indicated their interest for further support in addition to the various projects which they are already financing, but Mr Museveni emphasized that foreign assistance is only a supplement to our own efforts. The critical burden of getting out of our economic quagmire, he warned, will have to be borne by us Ugandans working together in a concerted effort.

This, given that our country is well endowed with good land and good weather, he said, the job of rebuilding the country should be relatively easy. The main emphasis in the policy package has been placed on the producer incentives. With immediate effect producer prices of coffee, cotton, tobacco, and tea will go up between three to five times. The price of coffee robusta, which has been 850 shillings, will go up 2,400 shillings per kilo. In terms of the new currency, the price will be 24 shillings. The price of

coffee arabica will go from 1,500 shillings to 4,000 shillings, which is 40 shillings in the new currency. The price of seed cotton will move up from 400 shillings to 1,900 shillings, which is 19 shillings in the new currency. That of seed cotton will also go up from 200 shillings to 1,000 shillings, which is 10 shillings in the new currency.

The price of tobacco, flue-cured, will move up from 1,000 shillings to 3,800 shillings, which is 38 shillings in the new currency. The price of tobacco, fire-cured, will go up 700 shillings to 2,500 shillings, which is 25 shillings in the new currency.

The price of tea, green leaf, will go up from 140 shillings to 500 shillings, which is 5 shillings in the new currency. The prices of cocoa, beans, maize, simsim, groundnuts, and soya beans will also be raised significantly. The new prices will be announced in due course.

On the civil service, President Museveni said the NRM recognizes the plight in which the civil servant finds himself given the current inflationary situation. Pending arrangements which will include the verification of people who should be on the payroll, government will, with immediate effect, from the 1st of June, double the wages and salaries for civil servants. Further adjustments will be announced after a full rationalization exercise, taking into account type of work and professional qualifications, has been concluded.

In order to permit payment of producer prices and to achieve an acceptable budgetary performance, government has taken the decision to institute a new exchange rate of the Uganda shilling vis-a-vis the U.S. dollar. This will be 60 new Uganda shillings to 1 U.S. dollar.

Government is aware that this arrangement makes it more difficult for some enterprises engaged in production to pay for imports because of local cover constraints. In order to deal with this problem, government will adopt appropriate interest rates and credit policies. It will be possible, for instance, for government to give an importer of priority items credit facilities to import, and then he pays after he has sold his merchandise. This will obviate the possibility of local cover being out of reach of importers of priority items. Interest on medium- and long-term loans will also be set to reflect the expected decline in inflation.

Practical credit guidelines will also be introduced. The rate of inflation is expected to fall about 30 percent in 1987-88 and 20 percent to 10 percent in 1988 and 1989 respectively.

To further assist production enterprises, the government will establish revolving fund credit facilities to be on (?loan) to commercial banks for the purpose of providing short-term credits in local and foreign currency to priority importers. And as the shortage of foreign exchange gets alleviated, the government will establish an open general licensing system under which priority importers will obtain import licenses and foreign exchange immediately upon request.

Another consequence of this exchange rate adjustment is that prices of essential imports like petroleum, salt, and sugar will go up. The prices of petroleum products will accordingly go up with

effect from midnight tonight. The new prices will be: diesel — 19/80 per liter; super premium — 30 shillings per liter; regular — 28/20 per liter; kerosene — 14/40 per liter.

The president stressed that it is the sincere conviction of the government that these measures will reverse the tide of cumulative decline that has characterized our economy over the last 2 decades. Priorities include: 1) restoration to full utilization of productive capacities of the existing units, especially in the agricultural and industrial sectors; 2) rehabilitation of the economy and social infrastructures.

The thrust of the resource mobilization for economic recovery and for the selected projects aims at concentrating action in the eight key areas:

A. Acquisition of agricultural machinery and other agricultural inputs, as well as animal drugs.

B. Repair of both truck and feeder roads.

C. Acquisition of commercial vehicles, spare parts, and other supplies, especially truck's rail rolling stocks. [as heard]

D. Immediate acquisition of industrial raw materials and spare parts to enable fuller utilization of our idle industrial capacity.

E. Rehabilitation of public utilities, particularly electricity and water.

F. Rehabilitation of those industries producing essential commodities.

G. Provision of essential commodities, especially in the areas of health and education.

H. Reviving our construction capacity in building and road reconstruction.

CONGO

Iran's First Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives
AB151608 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French
 0700 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, Iran's first deputy foreign minister, arrived in Brazzaville on 14 May. The Iranian official was welcomed at the airport by Bernard Combo Matsiona, minister of health and social affairs.

GABON

Bongo Discusses Chad Situation With GUNT Official
AB151545 Paris AFP in French 1200 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Libreville, 15 May (AFP) — Gabonese President Omar Bongo met yesterday for over an hour with Ahmed Kailan, permanent under secretary to GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei. This was learned today from an authoritative Gabonese source. According to the same source, they discussed inter-Chadian negotiations and the current situation in the field.

Questioned by AFP, Mr Kailan declined to comment on the report by the Libyan news agency, JANA, that Libya "has turned over its positions in the Tibesti region to Goukouni Oueddei's forces."

Mr Kailan left here last night for Algiers, via Paris, and is expected back in Gabon shortly. It was also learned that President Bongo is due to send an emissary to Ndjamena. The OAU ad hoc committee on the Chad-Libya border dispute, chaired by Gabon, is scheduled to dispatch a ministerial mission to Tripoli and Ndjamena in June.

ZAIRE

Government Denies Angolan Claims on Rebel Attacks
AB161230 Paris AFP in French 0858 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 16 May (AFP) — The Zairian Government on Friday denied recent statements by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos that armed bands violating Angolan borders were coming from Zaire, the official Zairian news agency, AZAP, said.

Zaire, AZAP added, refuses to be a scapegoat for every threat to the security of the Angolan state and reaffirms its respect of the accords signed in 1979 between Presidents Mobutu Sese Seko and Agostinho Neto, which guarantee the sovereignty and security of Angola, the news agency noted.

In a speech on Monday [11 May] in Maquela do Zombo (in northern Angola), about 40 km from the border with Zaire, President dos Santos warned against "certain military move-

ments operating from the other side of the border." "There are those who cross the border and disturb the peace and tranquility prevailing among our people," President dos Santos was quoted as saying by the official Angolan news agency, ANGOP, received in Lisbon.

Mr dos Santos also asserted that Angolan authorities will continue to use "diplomatic means to put an end to the movement of those, who, coming from the other side of the border, are bringing instability to Angola."

ANGOP then announced that the government forces repulsed an attack by UNITA (armed opposition to the Luanda regime) against Maquela do Zombo on Tuesday [12 May]. In a communique on Wednesday, UNITA said "it had launched an attack" on Maquela do Zombo, killing 33 Angolan soldiers.

Cooperation Agreement With Romania Ratified
AB160835 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1645 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 15 May (AZAP) — Citizen Gambembo Fumu wa Utadi, member of the MPR Central Committee and secretary general in charge of relations with sister and friendly parties, and Mircea Andrei, Romanian ambassador to Zaire, today at the People's Palace exchanged documents on the ratification of the agreement signed in Bucharest on 15 May 1986 between the MPR party-state and the Romanian Communist Party (RCP).

On this occasion, Citizen Gambembo underscored the excellent relations existing between the two friendly parties which, through this accord, seek to broaden their cooperation to cover all areas.

The Romanian ambassador to Zaire stressed the significance and high regard given this agreement by the RCP secretary general, President Ceausescu, within the framework of the development of relations between the Romanian and Zairian peoples.

After pointing out that this accord was an important factor in bringing the two parties together, Mircea Andrei stated that it also constituted an "organized" legal framework that will contribute to the strengthening of bilateral cooperation which, he said, should reach the level of fraternal relations existing between Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Mobutu Sese Seko.

This is the second party, after the United National Independence Party of Zambia, to ratify an agreement with the MPR.

The Romanian president visited Zaire in April. On that occasion, Zaire and Romania pledged to seek effective cooperation, as the collaboration between the two countries had hitherto been characterized by the exchange of visits by delegations.

An MPR delegation, led by Citizen Gambembo, paid a 2-week official visit to Romania in May 1986, during which a protocol agreement on cooperation between the two parties was signed.

BENIN

Chadian Minister Brings Message From Habre
AB162143 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
 1930 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Comrade Romain Vilon Guezo, acting president of the republic and head of state, and chairman of the standing committee of the National Revolutionary Assembly, met this morning with Brother Gouara Lassou, the Chadian foreign minister. Brother Gouara Lassou was led into the presidential office by Comrade Ibrahim Souradjou, minister delegate to the presidency of the republic in charge of plan and statistics, acting for the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

President Hissein Habre's special envoy brought a message to the head of state. Here is his statement to the press after the session:

[Begin recording] I brought a message from President Hissein Habre to President Kerekou. I handed this message to the speaker of the National Assembly. I took the opportunity to brief him on the military and political situation in Chad.

The Chadian Government and people believe that war is not the only way of solving problems. Therefore, the Chadian Government has always sought a peaceful, negotiated settlement. The Chadian Government feels we must persevere and act to save human lives, as those dying on both sides are brothers.

From a purely domestic and political point of view, we are holding talks with our brothers who support Mr Goukouni. Meetings are being held at the moment, and discussions are currently under way. We think we will find a solution that safeguards Chad's national interests, for, as we have always said, the Chadian Government has always maintained that no Chadian, no group of Chadians, and no government in Chad can claim exclusive control over the country's destiny. This is why we say we must involve everyone in the management of the country. It is in the interest of our people and will help protect Chad's national unity, independence, and territorial integrity. [end recording]

GUINEA

Conakry Demonstration Mobilizes Support for CMRN
AB171215 Conakry Domestic Service in French
 0915 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] The people of the three districts of Conakry will stage an important march today in support of the CMRN and General Lansana Conte. This march is to mobilize the entire population of our capital — women, men, young people, [words indistinct].

I repeat, this march will be staged jointly by the three districts of the capital. For the people of Conakry I, the march will begin from the headquarters of the minister of youth and sports; the people of Conakry II will set out from the entrance to the Central Hospital; and the people of Conakry III will begin their march from the [name indistinct] Hospital and the (?Faycal Mission) of Conakry.

Thus, it is from these various parts of the capital that the demonstration will begin and it will end on the esplanade in front of the People's Palace in the center of Conakry.

It is obvious that this demonstration of support for and solidarity with the CMRN and the head of state is timely, especially when one takes account of the fact that our country is determined to engage in a policy of national reconstruction that will (?bring greater honor) at the national and international levels to the CMRN and [words indistinct].

Conte Addresses Rally

AB171816 Paris AFP in French 1707 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Conakry, 17 May (AFP) — Guinean President Lansana Conte today appealed to young people, women, and workers "to regain their self-control" 2 weeks after the distribution of anti-government leaflets in Conakry.

Guinea's strongman, who had not appeared in public for 6 weeks, addressed several thousand Guineans today on the esplanade of the People's Palace in central Conakry, at the end of a "support and solidarity march" for the CMRM (ruling body) and the government. Earlier this morning, Radio Conakry appealed to the people to demonstrate their support for the regime.

The Guinean president spoke for 45 minutes in the Sousou national language. Referring to the leaflets that had been seized, which condemned "corruption and nepotism," he stressed that "no one is spared by criticism." He then called on his fellow countrymen "to remember the recent past" (the dictatorship of Sekou Toure, who died in March 1984), and claimed that the progress made by his regime in 3 years is clearly more positive than the achievements of the defunct regime over 26 years.

General Conte, who was wearing a long, white, flowing gown, condemned the high cost of living in Conakry, accusing merchants of being responsible for the situation, particularly during the month of Ramadan. The price of meat has increased by 60 percent in a few days and the cost of sugar has doubled. The head of state did not, however, announce any specific measures to stop the rise in prices.

IVORY COAST

Liberia Complains About Training of Dissidents
AB151345 London BBC World Service in English
 1709 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Relations between Liberia and neighboring Ivory Coast are not exactly rosy at the moment. Samuel Doe's government has been claiming that Liberian dissidents are being trained in Ivory Coast.

A high-powered delegation, including the ministers of foreign affairs, defense, security, and justice, has just been in Ivory Coast. But it seems the Ivorians were not too impressed with their case. From Abidjan, Lyse Doucet reports:

[Begin recording] Liberian diplomats maintain that there were some 200 to 300 Liberian dissidents living in Ivory Coast, including former government officials and a host of others, who, they say, were involved in the 1985 failed coup attempt led by General Thomas Quiwonkpa, and are now back in Ivory Coast plotting another coup. But the Ivorian authorities, who have been receiving complaints from the Liberian Government for many years, say they have no proof that the Liberians still are engaging in political activities.

Ivory Coast is a refuge to large numbers of West African dissidents but under condition that they keep away from politics. Liberian officials have recently brought forth more details on dissident activities, including what they say is a cassette recording in which Moses Duopoh, a former official in President Samuel Doe's government, is speaking to Liberian and Ghanaian dissidents here about carrying out coups in Liberia and Ghana. But senior Ivorian political and security sources, who say they have not heard this cassette, have not been swayed by the new evidence, including a recent telex sent from Liberia [words indistinct] them to what is said to be a training camp for dissidents at Danane, an Ivorian town near the Liberian border. There are many Liberians there, given the common ethnic group which (?bestrides) the Liberia-Ivory Coast border. But Ivorian security officials, who recently visited the area, said they found no evidence that anyone was carrying out military exercises. It seems the Ivorian president has asked Liberian officials to send their best security men to have a look for themselves. But the Liberians say there was no point now, since they say the dissidents have scattered after hearing that Liberian officials could be visiting. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Benue State Lifts Ban on Open-Air Preaching
AB170638 Lagos Domestic Service in English
 2100 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] In Benue State, the ban on all forms of open-air and other forms of public religious activities has been lifted. The state

commissioner for information, Mr (Tor Nja), who announced this, advised all religious organizations to practice their religion with a greater sense of responsibility.

The ban was imposed in March as a result of disturbances in Kaduna State.

SENEGAL

Chadian Foreign Minister on Libyan 'Maneuver'
AB151146 Paris AFP in French 1054 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Dakar, 14 May (AFP) — The Chadian minister of foreign affairs has used the word maneuver to describe Libya's claim to have turned over its last positions in northern Chad to the forces of Goukouni Oueddei, president of the original GUNT.

Gouara Lassou told the Dakar paper *Le Soleil* that "the area in question is a hilly zone difficult to control. The Libyans merely left because they could not control it." He also recalled that Goukouni Oueddei's forces have been integrated with the FANT [Chadian National Armed Forces] since November 1986.

The Chadian minister said negotiations were under way with Goukouni Oueddei, adding that the Ndjama government "has no desire to either humiliate him or take revenge on him." However, he stated that Acheikh ibn Oumar, president of the New GUNT, "represents only himself."

Finally, Gouara Lassou reasserted that Chad did not oppose negotiations to solve the Aozou Strip dispute, provided Libya presents legal arguments and the area does not become a combat zone.

The Chadian minister of foreign affairs arrived in Dakar on the evening of 12 May to deliver a message from President Hissain Habre to the Senegalese head of state, Abdou Diouf.

MOZAMBIQUE

Catholic Bishops Urge Government-RENAMO Talks

MB161400 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Mozambique's Roman Catholic bishops have appealed to the government and rebels to negotiate. In a pastoral letter, the bishops have called on the two to negotiate an end to the war that has ravaged the country for 10 years. A leader says the war has aggravated the misery and suffering of the people, and the church leaders fear for the future of the country as a free nation. Mozambican National Resistance rebels have been waging war since 1977, and on Wednesday [13 May] they kidnapped an American woman, an Australian, and five Zimbabwe citizens, including a baby, from a rural mission in central Mozambique.

Zambia To Receive Emergency Airlift Aid

MB170722 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] The airlift operation to transport emergency food supplies and logistical support to the war victims in Mozambique will be extended to Zambia Province in the coming weeks. At the beginning of the month, Mozambican authorities, in conjunction with the World Food Program, began an airlift to supply 100 tons of food supplies to 150,000 people in Inhanga, Sofala Province.

A source at the UN office in charge of coordinating emergency aid to Mozambique was quoted by AIM as saying that the airlift is being extended to that province in view of the critical condition of thousands of people recently freed from the yoke of armed bandits.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Reacts to Zimbabwe Charges on Blast

MB171409 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1400 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Pretoria, May 17, SAPA — Governments which allowed insurgents to operate in their country were "playing with fire" and could get "burned themselves", Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha said today in response to official allegations from Zimbabwe that South African agents were responsible for a rocket attack on an ANC house in Harare this morning.

"Governments who allow in their territory persons of violence who arm themselves with weapons and explosives must take into consideration that they are playing with fire and people who play with fire sometimes get burned themselves," a statement issued by a spokesman for the minister said.

The spokesman also referred reporters to a statement made by the minister last week in which he denied South Africa was involved in a blast that ripped through an apartment in Harare, killing a Zimbabwean woman.

The spokesman said that denial applied to allegations by a Zimbabwe Government official that South African agents were responsible for this morning's attack on the house used by the ANC in Harare.

Nobody was injured in this morning's attacks although the ANC house and neighbouring houses were damaged.

Zimbabwe security officials said last week's bomb was planted in a TV set intended as a gift for the ANC representative in Harare but exploded before it was delivered to him.

ANC Statement Condemns RSA

MB180854 Dakar PANA in English 0820 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Lusaka, 18 May (ZANA/PANA) — The African National Congress has strongly condemned South Africa's terrorist attack on an ANC office in Harare, describing it as a gross outrage against the liberation movement and the people of Zimbabwe.

In a statement released in Lusaka the ANC said: It is also part of the campaign of terror against our diplomatic representatives which has already resulted in attacks against our offices in Harare last year and earlier in Lusaka, Gaborone, Maputo, Stockholm and London.

The spokesman, however, said none of this would deter the ANC from the liberation war or dissuade the peoples of the world from supporting the movement and expressing their opposition to apartheid.

We are certain that in the end, the perpetrators of these evil deeds will meet their just deserts, the spokesman added. He said ANC diplomatic missions would continue to spread the truth about the terrorism of apartheid no matter how often South African President P.W. Botha tries to silence them with bombs.

KwaNdebele Unrest Continues; Residents Stay Home

MB151619 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English
17 May 87 p 1

[By Derrick Luthayi]

[Text] KwaNdebele Paramount Chief Mabhoko David Mahlangu this week narrowly escaped death when his royal kraal was attacked.

And yesterday thousands of residents stayed away from work to mourn the death of several anti-independence activists who died last week.

According to reliable sources, Chief Mahlangu, who controls about 85 percent of the tiny impoverished homeland, left for an undisclosed area on the Reef as he fears he may be detained or be forced to accept independence.

Chief Mahlangu's one son, Prince James, is in detention, and the other, the Crown Prince and former Minister of Health and

exposed to chaos and split resulted from the prime minister's announcement.

The daily went on to say that it was also observed that the approval of relieving the cabinet has not yet been released by the State Council. The prime minister had raised proposal to the State Council on relieving the Cabinet last week.

The idea of forming a national government in which the INF is to be involved faces severe opposition inside the major partner in the coalition the Al-Ummah Party and threatens to lead to mass resignations of some leaders in the party, the daily said.

However, the daily said, Al-Mahdi is expected to exert efforts for narrowing differences among the party members and his ally the Democratic Unionist Party "DUP."

On the DUP side a joint meeting between the DUP political office and the parliamentary group will be held tomorrow to set up the party's position and attitude towards the current coalition and the proposed national government.

On the other hand the INF Secretary General Hasan 'Abdallah al-Turabi has revealed to the daily *Al-Siyasah* published today that contacts were made between the INF and the Al-Ummah Party after the relieving of the cabinet and described the contacts as encouraging, but he declined to say whether the contacts have come up with agreement or not.

Al-Turabi said that the INF is not refusing in principle the idea of forming a national government and will not escape from bearing the responsibility of a national leadership.

The INF is committing itself to certain principles and conditions that the INF cannot go beyond, Al-Turabi said, adding that consultations with the Al-Ummah Party were centred on these principles and conditions.

The daily *Al-Siyasah* said that the new ministerial formation will be announced at the end of the week after consultation between the two coalition parties, adding that reliable sources said that Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi would deliver a detailed statement on the new cabinet formation.

On the other hand the Sudanese Communist Party organ *Al-Maydan* published today said the political consultations on the cabinet new formation are still going on among the parties and inside every party particularly in the DUP and the Al-Ummah Party.

The daily added that the consultations are centring on whether to let the INF participate in the upcoming government or not.

Quoting reliable sources from the DUP and the Al-Ummah parties *Al-Maydan* affirmed that there is a strong trend for renewing the coalition and be confined to the two major parties without involving the INF.

TUNISIA

Sfar Announces 'Partial' Cabinet Reshuffle
LD161320 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba held a working meeting this morning at the Republican Palace in Carthage, which was attended by Rachid Sfar, Mansour Shkiri, Zine el Abidine Ben Ali, and Amor Chedli.

Following the meeting, Prime Minister Sfar made this statement: The president of the republic has decided to carry out a partial reshuffle in the cabinet as follows: Mansour Shkiri, minister of supplies, housing, and transport; Mohamed Sayyah, minister of education and scientific research; Amor Chedli, minister director of the presidential office; Hassine Cherif, minister accredited to the prime minister in charge of public service and administrative reform; Abdelkader M'hiri, minister of state at the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research in charge of higher education; Hedi Khelil, minister of state at the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research in charge of secondary and elementary education. We have reported to the president on the deliberations of the cabinet session held at noon yesterday to discuss the intended reforms in the municipalities sector under the Seventh Plan and the scope of work under the plan. The cabinet approved practical steps to utilize the overflow of Pharmaceutical College graduates.

Interior Minister Affected
LD161645 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 16 May 87

[Excerpt] The supreme combatant, President Habib Bourguiba, has decided to appoint Zine El Abidine Ben Ali [hitherto interior minister] minister of state for the interior. [passage omitted]

Tunis Cites Articles in 16 May AL-AMAL, L'ACTION
LD160849 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
0600 GMT 16 May 87

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *Al-Amal* publishes an article today under the headline "Protection of the Important and Most Important," saying that the most significant issue for Tunisia today is the protection of society's security, the government's stability, and the continuation of the state. It calls for the adoption of a firm stand against anarchists and extremists who use the pretext of religion as a false cover for themselves. For its part, *L'Action*, carries an article analyzing the attitude of certain quarters, who have been trying to secure benefits for themselves at the expense of the public interest and that of the country. They are known for their stands founded on political opportunism and unnatural alliances, even with extremists. In another article, *L'Action* calls for a firm stance against those proven to belong to extremist, terrorist groups.

ETHIOPIA

Zimbabwe's Mugabe Arrives, Met by Mengistu
EA151639 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 15 May 87

[Excerpt] [Zimbabwean] Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was given a rousing fraternal welcome by the WPE government and people of Ethiopia today when he arrived in Addis Ababa for a 4-day official visit. At Bole International Airport the ZANU Patriotic Front secretary general was warmly welcomed by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee and chairman of the PMAC. [passage omitted]

North Korean Delegation Makes 1-Day Stopover
EA180047 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] The DPRK delegation led by Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Politburo of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee and DPRK vice president, left for Pyongyang today after a 1-day stopover following a visit to Uganda. The group was seen off at Bole International Airport by Comrade Hailu Yimenu, Politburo member of the WPE Central Committee.

UGANDA

President Museveni Addresses Nation on Economy
EA152249 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] The government has announced a more comprehensive economic policy package for reconstruction and development with current reform as one of the cornerstones.

In an address to the nation, President Museveni said: The major objective of the policy is to achieve basic principles to which the National Resistance Movement, NRM, is irrevocably committed, namely, the establishment of an independent, self-sustaining, and integrated national economy. The president emphasized that the measures announced today must be the beginning of the turning point in the economic history of the country.

The political and military victory, he said, was achieved in January last year. The battle on the economic front, he declared, has now fully begun. He urged all Ugandans to marshal the totality of our forces and resources so as to accomplish on the economic front what we achieved in the military field. The measures we have initiated today, President Museveni said, are for our own good, the good of our children and all the future generations.

The main features of the currency reforms are:

1. The introduction of the new unit of currency with a higher value to replace the old one, which is almost worthless. This will

save the public the inconvenience of carrying huge bundles of currency for simple economic transactions. One Uganda shilling will be issued for every 100 old Uganda shillings. In effect, two zeros are being knocked off from the old currency notes.

The second feature of the reform exercise is a reduction of liquidity in the economy. Total money supply, including currency in circulation (?demand), savings and time deposits now stand at about 850 million Uganda shillings. The rate of growth of money supply, most of which has been fueled by government borrowing from the Central Bank, has been a phenomenon since the seventies, which has been one of the main factors responsible for the runaway inflation which we are experiencing today.

Other factors being the breakdown of the socioeconomic [as heard], the shortage of supply of goods, and heavy foreign debts which encouraged the shortage of foreign exchange. Government has therefore decided to reduce the stock of money by introducing a currency conversion tax at a rate of 30 percent of all cash holdings by public, demand, savings, and time deposits of households and businesses with commercial banks and other financial institutions. All treasury bills and government stocks held by the public, other than commercial bank cash balances with the Central Bank, will be subject to this conversion tax.

The net profit from this tax, estimated at about 250 billion shillings after meeting the cost of the conversion exercise, will be used for two purposes. Half of this will go to (?pay a portion) of the domestic public debt, which now stands at about 350 billion shillings.

The other half will be used to set up a special development fund. This fund will contribute to reconstruction and development projects, including, among others, road repairs, rehabilitation of hospitals and educational institutions, railways, and airways development. He said all these are priority expenditures which must be undertaken in order to get the country going once again.

3. The conversion tax will have a dampening effect on the price levels. This is because of the withdrawal of about 125 billion shillings from circulation and the fact that the other half is to be used for investment purposes. This measure may be deflationary to some extent.

The government, however, has placed appropriate monetary policy measures to counteract any possible negative effects of this move on production.

4. In order to consolidate these anti-inflationary steps, the government is committed to pursuing both fiscal and monetary policies hereafter. Government will strengthen its tax revenue base through broadening the tax sources and strengthening of the tax administration. The treasury will also implement strict expenditure controls to ensure that further deficits financial will be curtailed. [sentence as heard]

5. To further strengthen this, measures will be taken to increase overall production. In order to ensure this policy package is supported both internally and externally and to assure its basic success, an agreement has been reached with the World Bank and the IMF on the main element of the medium-term [word

Karami expressed his belief that signs in the region confirm that it is possible to convene the international conference this year — despite the differences prevailing in Israel, as shown by the statements of enemy officials and the struggle threatening to bring down their government. He did not rule out the possibility that the Israelis might be forced to hold new elections. Karami further stressed that these indications confirm the need for a maximum degree of Arab solidarity, as Arab stands must be harmonious before the convocation of any summit or international conference.

In conclusion, Karami asserted that Lebanon has a special interest in the international conference, since with a just and comprehensive solution, this conference could resolve many of Lebanon's issues and problems, serving its interests and realizing many aspirations. It could also find a just settlement to the Palestinian question and ensure the Palestinians' right to self-determination, a return to their homes, and the establishment of their state, with Jerusalem as its capital, as was the case in ancient and modern history. This conference could also provide an answer to the issue of the other Arab territories occupied by Israel.

'Very Fierce Battle' Reported in South 17 May
NC171603 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 1535 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] The NNA correspondent in the south has just reported that resistance fighters launched an attack 15 minutes ago on Al-Huqban Hill, where agent Lahd's militiamen and Israeli enemy forces are deployed. The attackers used automatic weapons and rockets. A very fierce battle is currently taking place. The enemy forces sent helicopters which began raking the hills of Kafra and Yatar. Enemy artillery is also shelling the villages of Kafra, Yatar, and Al-Siddiqin.

UNIFIL forces closed the road between Haris and the Al-Siddiqin triangle to prevent its vehicles coming under fire and to avoid casualties among the UN forces.

Israeli Troops Reportedly on Alert in South
NC151608 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
 in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 May 87

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] According to reports leaked from the border zone, the occupation forces intend to close all schools as of next week. The occupation forces have also decided not to renew passes for people using the crossing points between the occupied and liberated areas in the south. Meanwhile, correspondents have noticed a state of alert among the occupation troops and militiamen, noting that Zionist flags are being flown on vehicles. [passage omitted]

In another development, resistance operations have continued throughout the southern areas in response to the practices of the Zionist enemy and its agents. A resistance group used Grad rockets to shell a position manned by Lahd militiamen in the environs of Hasbayya and Marj 'Uyun at 2200 yesterday. A rocket fell in the border town of Metulla. It has been learned that

four rockets caused material damage and left four agents wounded. A vehicle was also destroyed by fire. Another group shelled two posts in Yatar and Bint Jubayl at 0400 today. Six 107-mm rockets hit the two positions, causing material damage and wounding one of the agents.

In addition, a resistance group shelled enemy settlements in the occupied Upper Galilee last night and this morning. An Islamic resistance group used large-caliber Grad rockets to shell the Tarshiha settlement at dawn today. A statement issued by the group spoke of direct hits and pledged to continue resistance operations until the land is liberated. Another group shelled the settlements of Nahariyya and Shamir with Grad rockets, hitting its targets. The enemy radio has admitted the operations, but, as usual, has kept silent about the casualties.

Another resistance group detonated an explosive device while an enemy and agent patrol was passing near the Saff al-Hawa'-Aynata triangle at dawn today. The occupation forces carried out an extensive search in the area immediately afterward.

Israeli Helicopters Stage Mock Raid Over Camps
NC161959 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
 1945 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] At around 2130 today, Israeli helicopters carried out a mock raid over the Palestinian camps in Sidon, dropping a large number of flares. The Israeli helicopters were met by anti-aircraft fire.

Warplanes Fly Over Sidon
NC170823 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
 0815 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Sirens sounded in Sidon as Israeli warplanes flew at a medium altitude over the area this morning. The Israeli sorties began at 1000 and lasted until 1030. The planes came under anti-aircraft fire.

Fadlallah Rejects 'Any Agreement' With Israel
NC161318 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 1300 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Scholar Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah [Hizballah spiritual guide] has rejected any future security, political, or economic agreement with Israel. In an interview with the *Vision Agency* on the occasion of the anniversary of the abrogation of the 17 May agreement with Israel, he said: We will reject any agreement with Israel, and we will fight it. He stressed that an accord with Israel would be a losing proposition.

Group Threatens To Blow Up Libyan Embassy
NC170521 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
 0445 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] An organization calling itself the Al-Sadr Shi'ite Brigades [Alwiyat al-Sadr al-Shi'iyah] has contacted a foreign news

agency in Beirut, threatening to blow up the Libyan Embassy in Beirut if it reopens. The same group had earlier threatened to kill Libya's Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud if he visits Lebanon.

20-kg Bomb Goes Off Near Syrian Post in Tripoli

*NC181120 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1045 GMT 18 May 87*

[Text] According to a report from the north, an explosive device weighing 20 kg went off this morning near a position manned by the Syrian occupation forces in Al-Minyah in Tripoli.

The Lebanese Liberation Front has claimed responsibility for the explosion in a telephone call to Radio Free Lebanon.

LCP Member Hamdan Assassinated in West Beirut

*NC181036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 18 May 87*

[Text] Dr Hasan Hamdan, member of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party [LCP], was assassinated in West Beirut this morning. Three gunmen in a BMW fired on Hamdan, hitting various parts of his body, as he was getting into his car in front of his home in Karakul al-Druze. His corpse has been taken to the American University Hospital.

Hamdan, 46 years old, was known as Mahdi Amal. He belonged to the Shi'ite sect and had considerable influence in southern Lebanon. He was also a professor of philosophy at the Lebanese University.

Welfare, Cornelius Mahlangu, is also said to be in hiding on the Reef.

Chief Mahlangu escaped on Wednesday [13 May] morning after his royal kraal was raided by heavily armed men travelling in 11 cars.

The men left the kraal after firing several shots and arrested at least five people who had come to the chief's rescue.

The raiders also took in for questioning the Crown Prince's wife, Siphila Mahlangu, and badly assaulted a deaf and dumb man while trying to get him to disclose the whereabouts of Cornelius.

As the raiders left, they dumped thousands of pamphlets saying that if people stayed away from work they would be destroying the KwaNdebele nation, themselves and their jobs.

The pamphlets also stated that: "To stay away will be to rejoice that the comrades and the princes burn our mothers, fathers, destroyed our shops, schools, grandmothers, brothers, sisters and grandfathers so that we become poorer and lose our jobs, and the comrades and princes become rich."

Meanwhile, thousands of people stayed away from work to mourn the death of those who died in May last year after they were killed at the royal kraal by police fire.

Pamphlets calling for the resignation of all the "puppets and stooges" of the Pretoria regime were also distributed.

The pamphlets also called on Cabinet Ministers and the kitskonstabels [special constables] — believed to be Imbokodo [pro-independence vigilante group] members in disguise — to resign immediately, and demanded that Prince James and the more than 100 detained activists be released.

Early yesterday morning KwaNdebele streets were deserted. Only the rambling of police cars and vans could be heard. There were no private vehicles on the roads.

Group Areas Threat May Increase U.S. Withdrawals
MB131655 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English
13 May 87 pp 1, 2

[By Patrick Bulger]

[Text] Government's threat to prosecute companies breaking the Group Areas Act (GAA) is set to trigger a renewed outflow of American capital, as U.S. companies realise they are powerless to influence change.

Business Day has learnt that at Cabinet level there is a growing impatience with U.S. companies which have been deliberately flouting the law by settling black employees in white areas, and that it will not hesitate to take action against them.

With just over two weeks before the deadline set by the Rev Leon Sullivan for the dismantling of apartheid, there is a growing fear

that government's hardline attitude will finally convince U.S. companies there is no prospect of contributing to change.

Undecided investors would be more inclined to leave should government's hardline attitude towards implementation of the GAA continue, said Meg Voorhes, assistant director of the influential Washington-based Investor Responsibility Research Centre (IRRC). The IRRC advises U.S. financial investors of investment conditions in SA.

Two years ago Sullivan said that if by the end of this month "grand apartheid" was not eliminated, he would call for a total U.S. boycott of SA. He particularly singled out the scrapping of the GAA at the time.

Until now, Sullivan companies have conducted a low-key programme of civil disobedience that includes settling black employees in white areas. *Business Day* has been told that such companies could not be expected to be exempt from prosecution in terms of the GAA.

Voorhes warned that the GAA was a particularly emotional issue with the American public. She said: "People here see the GAA as one of the most visible signs of apartheid. When you see the State prosecuting people breaking the Act, I think it would make people think twice about continued investment."

Premier's Tony Bloom said yesterday that foreign companies breaking the GAA "must go on and keep on doing so".

SAPA reports that the United Municipalities of SA (UMSA) has expressed disappointment at government's recent threat to sell properties occupied by people contravening the GAA.

UMSA said yesterday: "If this is reform, then it is unacceptable."

'Illegally-Owned' Building Sold in GAA Case
MB150900 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English
14 May 87 pp 1 and 2

[By Patrick Bulger]

[Text] A special plainclothes police squad has been formed at John Vorster Square in Johannesburg to track down Group Areas Act (GAA) offenders.

In a separate move, government is selling an "illegally-owned" building in Johannesburg as part of its GAA crackdown.

The Department of Constitutional Development and Planning director in charge of group areas, John Fourie, confirmed yesterday the sale was in its final stages.

Details on the sale of the building and the special squad were not forthcoming yesterday, as by 3 pm all department spokesmen were refusing to comment on any matter to do with the GAA.

The sale of the building is believed to be the first time Section 41 of the GAA — in terms of which the building is being sold —

has been used. The section empowers government to dispose of any building owned "illegally", or any building used by members of the wrong race group. Compensation is not guaranteed.

Fourie refused to identify the building's owner, or any other details about the sale.

In other developments yesterday:

A Vereeniging lawyer, Jack Cooper, said he was considering legal action against the department after it sent him a letter saying his building would be sold within three months as the Deputy Minister was satisfied it was being held in contravention of the GAA;

A Caledon Anglican Priest, the Rev Trevor Pearce, was warned by police that by living at the local rectory in a white area he was contravening the GAA;

PFP urban black affairs spokesman Helen Suzman said yesterday the crackdown was an obvious attempt to appease the right wing. She said: "It is a step backwards and it must create bad race relations. It's a disaster." She said the PFP intended raising the issue at the earliest opportunity once Parliament reopened next week.

Before the information shutdown yesterday afternoon, Fourie said the "illegal" Johannesburg property-owner had already been given the three-month warning required by the law.

Asked the objective of the sale, Fourie replied: "the Minister's concern is that the property be sold to a member of the qualified group and that it be occupied by a member of the qualified group."

Cooper told how he had been visited by the police GAA squad three months ago. He said he was taken to John Vorster Square where he made a statement. Cooper rents part of his building to the Orange Vaal General Workers' Union.

The letter he was sent reads in part: "You are hereby informed that the Deputy Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning is satisfied that the property as mentioned in the schedule hereto attached has been acquired and/or is held in contravention of the provisions of the Group Areas Act (36 of 1966)."

SAPA Reports Tourism Increasing 'Considerably'

MB180822 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0815 GMT 18 May 87

[Excerpts] Durban May 18 SAPA — International tourism to South Africa had picked up considerably in the recent past, Mr Danie Hough, chairman of the South African Tourism Board, said in Durban today.

Mr Hough was opening an indaba [conference] with a difference — indaba travel Market 87 — at the Durban exhibition centre, sponsored by his board and the Southern African Regional Tourism Council.

He said: "There is a noticeable reversal in the declining trend of overseas tourist arrivals, comparing December 1986 with the same period of 1985.

"The statistics show an increase of 24 percent from Germany, 15 per cent from France, 14 per cent from Belgium, 10 per cent from Switzerland and 5 per cent from Australia.

"The results of the monthly hotel ratio survey for the month and year ended March 1987 indicated that the downward trend, which commenced in November 1981, is showing continued signs of the upswing which became evident since August last year.

"Percentage increases in bed occupancy for March 1987 compared to March 1986 show an 18 per cent increase for Cape Town, 14 per cent for the Garden Route, 16 per cent for Port Elizabeth, 8 per cent for Durban and Umhlanga Rocks and 29 per cent for Pretoria."

Mr Hough said the biggest value of tourism for South Africans was to get people from overseas to see the situation in South Africa for themselves — not only to see the wonders of this country but also to be exposed to the complexities, problems and challenges of the country and its people and to realise that all the peoples of South Africa were striving towards the building of a new South Africa. [passage omitted]

He said the future of tourism in South Africa looked very promising. It already played an important role in the national economy and in 1986, R905 million flowed into the country through foreign tourist visits.

Police Issue Unrest Report for 15 May

MB160643 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0635 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Pretoria May 16 SAPA — Following is the SAP's daily unrest report:

"A few incidents of unrest took place yesterday.

"At Kwamashu (Port Natal), a mob stoned a police patrol. Police dispersed the mob with shotguns, fatally wounding a black man and injuring another.

"In Bonthuvel (Western Province), a transport services office was damaged by arsonists."

16 May Unrest Report

MB170636 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0639 GMT 17 May 87

[Text] Pretoria May 17 SAPA — Herewith the SAP's unrest report:

"A few incidents of stone throwing took place yesterday.

"At Claremont near Durban yesterday afternoon a mob of blacks stoned a police patrol. Police dispersed the mob with birdshot. One black man slightly injured.

"At Ashdown near Pietermaritzburg, a private house damaged by arsonists."

17 May Unrest Report
MB180914 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0910 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Pretoria, May 18 SAPA — Herewith the SAP's unrest report for the period 12h01 to 24h00:

"The following unrest-related incidents were reported since yesterday: "At Chesterville, near Durban, police used tearsmoke to disperse a number of illegal gatherings. No injuries were reported. At Bangoethu near Oudtshoorn, a member of the security forces was injured when a group of blacks threw stones at him. At Dobsonville, in Soweto, a private home was damaged by arsonists.

"At approximately 03h00 this morning a house in Bekkesdal near Westonaria was slightly damaged by an explosion. No-one was injured. It has been established that commercial explosive was used."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB160454 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN: U.S. Has Lost Influence

"The reaction of overseas governments to the outcome of South Africa's election is pathetic," Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 15 May says in a page 6 editorial. "It was their interference in our domestic affairs, their imposition of sanctions, that helped to give the National Party a sweeping victory while at the same time sending many voters into the Conservative Party camp." President Reagan has told the new South African ambassador to the United States that apartheid must go, but "the U.S. administration does not seem to realise that it no longer has any influence in this country, now that the U.S. has imposed sanctions on South Africa, U.S. firms are pulling out of the country or are engaged in corporate civil disobedience, and Washington has played host to ANC terrorist leader Oliver Tambo. You cannot kick a country in the teeth and expect it to regard you as a friend or to heed your advice."

STAR: Government Has Something To Hide

Commenting on the expulsion of two British television journalists in its page 8 editorial, Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 15 May notes: "The Government no doubt thinks it has again reminded the world that it isn't afraid to act against anyone. The real message, unfortunately, is different. It is that there is something to hide. And also that, when it comes to a metaphorical shootout, any target will do as long as Pretoria can shoot its own foot too."

Preview of New Parliament Session

"The session of Parliament starting next week will largely be the hangover after the election party the night before," David Braun writes on page 8. "This is the time, Mr Harry Schwarz predicted before the election, that the voters will be given their medicine (having already had their sweets). It is also likely to be

a session marked by considerable tightening of security measures, as endorsed by the electorate last week. Third, this session could see some movement towards introducing legislation to set up the National Council, a new forum in which black leaders can deliberate with the leaders of the tricameral system on a new constitution." "Emergency regulations recently overturned by the courts are expected to be reformulated and loopholes plugged."

CAPE TIMES: Business Gains Should Benefit Majority

"Last week's lurch to the right by the nation's electorate, flying in the face of international wisdom and the hopes of the majority at home, has evidently instilled even more bullish sentiments on the business front," Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 14 May observes in a page 6 editorial. "Instead of a run on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, we have seen share prices soar to even dizzy heights." "What we have now is a fairly comfortable, probably fairly short, breathing space offering exciting short term prospects. It would be tragic if we do not utilize this opportunity for long term gains by ensuring that it benefits the majority. This time we can use what looks like a good harvest for more seeds."

SOWETAN Not Surprised by Crackdown

"We are not surprised" by the government's crackdown on group areas violations, trade unions, universities, organizations using foreign funds, and the alternative media, Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 15 May says in its page 6 editorial. "After all, Mr Botha and his men are doing the natural thing, reflecting the wishes and demands of a great majority of the white population." "The State will fight things like the sanctions campaign by getting tough internally. It will try and put out that little bit of freedom that the newspapers are still able to use. It will attack all organisations that have the gumption to be totally against the National Party which, in the eyes of white voters, is translated to mean South Africa. We will be watching these developments with extreme interest and we can almost predict what will happen."

Open Letter on Group Areas, Detentions

On page 7, the *Sowetan* carries an open letter from news editor Thami Mazwai to State President P.W. Botha. Noting that President Botha addressed blacks as "fellow South Africans" in a pamphlet distributed in the townships before the election, Mazwai notes that the government has cracked down on Group Areas Act violators and asks: "If all of us are fellow South Africans, why must these South Africans be thrown out of their homes into the street?" Turning to the detention of children, Mazwai writes: "President, detention without trial is inhuman. But detaining children, some younger than 15, is going beyond that. Surely South Africans cannot do such things to each other. Surely President, being a parent, you should know what happens to our emotions when we are not with our children." Mazwai concludes with an appeal: "Mr President, may God bless you and give you the courage to save this country from disaster. Staying in the townships, and seeing the prevalent mood, makes me numb. I fear for what is about to happen."

CITY PRESS: Reform Synonymous With Repression

In its editorial on page 2, Johannesburg *City Press* in English on 17 May [date as published] claims that the government's clamp-

down on the Group Areas Act "merely underlines the government's commitment to racialism and further exposes all of us to the spiral of anger and hatred that have become characteristic of this country." "The State President, P.W. Botha, on the eve of the election, asked voters to give him a mandate to continue with reform. He got it. What the voters did not understand was the government's vocabulary — reform is spelt repression."

Onslaught Against Extraparliamentary Groups

"There are times when the view that whatever has moved in this country was not because of rehabilitation alleged to have taken place in Parliament, but rather outside it has credibility," Percy Qoboza writes in his "Percy's Itch" column on page 9. The government appears to recognize this for it is "flexing its muscles and preparing an onslaught against extra-parliamentary groups." However, if it believes that this will "fatally cripple them," then the government "has tragically underestimated their resolve to once and for all eradicate apartheid. The sooner they open their eyes to this and respond in a more rational manner, the better for this country."

17 May Press Review

MB170500 [Editorial Report]

STAR on Need for Dialogue

In his "Undercurrent Affairs" column on page 8 of Johannesburg *The Star* in English for 16 May, Harvey Tyson concludes that "if South Africa is ever to prosper, if some form of democracy is to survive, South Africans must start talking to each other. The difficulty is that the government and the ANC are blocking things. The government, in its bid to maintain power, passes regulations which censor information and prevent any reasonable discussion of any kind. The ANC, in a bid to get power, uses violence that help achieve the same result. Because of the strategies adopted by these two extremes, everyone is the loser." "The solution, of course, is to talk, discuss, and debate the issues of democracy with all South Africans. It is necessary to understand the perspectives as well as the needs of those who have been deprived under the present system. And it is necessary to act to defend democratic values." Business and white and black moderates "will have to come together as a clear majority which rejects the non-democratic views of the extremes." Only then "is there hope of avoiding the destiny which the gloom-and-doom boys predict for this country."

Reform is Government's First Priority

"It is now a matter of urgency for the government, regardless of party politics, to inject a new mood of constructive dynamism into a situation of crisis," says John Patten in another column on the same page. Patten sees only two positive factors: the economy and the "two-pronged constitutional dream", both of which suffer from "a lack of credibility." Despite artificial stimulation by the government, "political trends continue to damage business confidence," which is essential if a genuine economic upswing is to be sustained. Also, "there is widespread disbelief in both black and white circles, regardless of political affiliation, that the government's constitutional programme can be made to work or even to appear from the drawing boards. It is now commonplace to hear it said that, even if the government does find publicly

visible blacks to negotiate with in a National Council, the black population will not accept those blacks as their representatives. The solution that might be agreed to in the National Council could therefore be impossible to implement successfully." "To seek light out of darkness, the government in the driving seat has the responsibility of projecting its proposals in such a way that would enable moderates to give them a try. That means making major cross-party and cross-racial gestures that would throw the debate and the options wide open, allowing freedom to all groups to participate." Patten concludes that "there can be no stability until the justified grievances of black South Africa have been addressed. Therefore, reform must be the first priority."

18 May Press Review

MB180949 [Editorial Report]

SUNDAY STAR: RSA To Expect U.S. Pressure

Neil Lurssen writes in the "Cross Purposes" column on page 15 of Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English on 17 May that when Gary Hart withdrew from the presidential race, "the Rev Jesse Jackson was thrown into the party's frontrunner status." Lurssen believes that Jackson will make South Africa his "number one foreign policy issue. He will demand that his rivals make a commitment against the evil of apartheid." "If President Botha provides the ammunition for his American enemies," then "Dr Treurnicht provides the heavy weapons. Dr Treurnicht and his kind have paid no heed at all to U.S. economic pressure because it has been meaningless, U.S. liberals argue, and the time has come to get really tough. So, what was going to be a fairly quiet year in the U.S. for South Africa looks as though it will see another anti-apartheid circus."

Reform To Recede Into Background

"It hasn't taken long for the country's political Right turn to take concrete, ugly shape," notes the editorial on page 16. "Within a week of the election came word from Government sources of a decision to get even tougher on the 'security' front." "All in all the picture of further looming repression is not an edifying one. It casts still more doubt on the validity of the Government's supposed dual mandate, which was interpreted as reform going hand in hand with security. For the immediate future the emphasis seems to be all on security — strictly the short-term kind — while reform recedes even further into the background."

ANC Victor in Elections

On the same page political correspondent David Breier writes that Professor Heribert Adam, who is completing a year as acting director of the Center for Intergroup Studies at the University of Cape Town, "believes the true victor of the recent white elections was not the National Party. He believes victory belongs to the outlawed African National Congress." Adam gives the following reasons: "Firstly, the ANC had been elevated in the course of the Government's election campaign as the major alternative to the NP"; "secondly, the swing to the Right and the toppling of the Progressive Federal Party as official opposition, made it clear that the only meaningful opposition to apartheid was extra-parliamentary"; "thirdly, the world would react to the rightwing swing in South Africa by further isolating the country and imposing more sanctions," which "would benefit the ANC which

has long been campaigning for isolation and sanctions on South Africa." But, Breier also points out that "members of the Western diplomatic community in South Africa who have taken keen note of the election and of Professor Adam's views, believe his views are too 'leftist' to be realistic."

P.W. Botha Expected To Move Further Right

"President P. W. Botha is expected to counter the Right-wing gains in the recent white election by moving further Right when he opens Parliament on Tuesday, parliamentary sources say," writes David Breier on the same page. Botha is expected to concentrate on security issues when he opens Parliament. "The Government is likely to insist on greater control by the university authorities, and punitive measures may be introduced against universities which fail to toe the line." "On the 'reform' issue, the Government's only priority at present is getting the National Council, including blacks, off the ground."

ACTSTOP To Fight Evictions

"The Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, can expect a strong legal counter-attack to the threatened seizure and sale of property in terms of the Group Areas Act," says Jo-anne Collinge on page 17. "The warning comes from the Action Committee to Stop Evictions (ACTSTOP) — which organised mass defence of group-areas 'illegals' some years ago — and from the professional association of Lawyers for Human Rights." ACTSTOP chairman Cassim Saloojee "believes the Government's new tactic of threatening property owners has been provoked by 'in-fighting in white political ranks.' Noting that previous group areas attack had centred on Johannesburg but that other areas seemed under attack in the latest moves, Mr Saloojee said ACTSTOP was anxious to co-ordinate efforts with community, religious and business organisations in all areas."

SUNDAY STAR: Unions Have Political Force

Black trade unions have created a new kind of politics "which might yet offer a vision of a democratic, post-apartheid future," says Steven Friedman on page 2 of the "Review" section of *The Sunday Star*. "Unions are now seen as a political force — but their real contribution to our politics is often overlooked. Many on the Right fear — and some on the Left hope that unions are 'laboratories of revolution.'" Friedman believes the unions have succeeded in giving the black workers "a taste of controlling both their own organisations and a part of their lives once controlled by whites." This has also "led many white employers to accept that decisions must be taken with black people, not for them. The often parochial battles of the unions concern all South Africans, for they provide a daily lesson in how blacks might come to wield power and how whites might come to live with it."

South Africans Need To Make Moral Commitment

Conrad Strauss, group managing director of Standard Investment Corporation, remarks on the same page that "the decline of South Africa was neither inevitable nor accidental. It resulted from a series of deliberate policy choices and the sum of these choices represents political deficiency." "The new generation of leaders must accept that the first national priority has to be a deliberate and sustained shift from separation into freedom of association in its broadest sense." "As individuals there are three avenues open to us as participants in the political battleground

of South Africa. We can stay neutral; we can retreat and leave the field; or we can make a moral and ideological commitment. I do not consider neutrality to be an option. Retreat certainly is, and we are seeing a disturbing number of white people taking that route — in this context we should not forget that for years we have seen a drain of black people who have left South Africa in despair. The third course of action is the one I would urge upon you: to stay and to use what influence you have to help us change."

Security, Reform Both Needed

"It is in white interests that there be reform, that a society be created which is stable, in which reasonable aspirations can be satisfied," says Yeoville MP Harry Schwarz in the "Talking Cents" column on the same page. "To persuade whites to agree to political, social and economic change because it is morally right is what the PFP has been perceived to be doing. To persuade them that it is in the whites' own interests to do so is where the PFP has failed." "Where the failure of both the PFP's campaign as well as voters' perception arose, was that fear, worry or concern must be accepted as the reality of voters' emotions. But how does one overcome the fear or remove the cause? The short term solution is the strength of the security apparatus, but if reform is to succeed and revolution and violence are to be avoided, we need to be strong on security as well as on reform. The choice between security and reform is a false one. It should be security and real reform."

SUNDAY TIMES on Group Areas

"The current pursuit of Group Areas Act offenders means the Government is doing one of two things: either it is guilty of the worst kind of political cynicism, or it is undergoing a rare burst of ideological honesty," says a page 22 editorial in *Johannesburg Sunday Times* in English on 17 May. "The Government, as usually happens when confronted with a crisis, has lapsed into doublespeak. Just as bulldozers became front-end loaders and forced removals were turned into voluntary repatriation, so too does a sudden flurry of prosecutions, a crackdown become 'routine enforcement.'" "White South Africans were increasingly moving towards accepting the end of Group Areas. This purge, and the moral leadership vacuum it implies, will reverse that process with dangerous consequences."

Independents Possibly 'Indispensable'

A second editorial on the same page says the emergence of the independent candidates Worrall, Lategan, and Malan was "one of the few encouraging signs in a poll which produced little else for our comfort." "These are early days for talk about a new party, but if the proposed Independent Movement can, by its own example, build bridges where at present there are none, it will become a major — even indispensable — player."

SUNDAY TIMES: Warning Against 'Waste' of RSA

In the "Another Voice" column on page 22 of *Johannesburg Sunday Times*, Harald Pakendorf writes an open letter to Thabo Mbeki, director of information and publicity of the ANC. Pakendorf says the ANC has "succeeded in making life difficult for anybody who wishes to be reasonable, and who sees an inevitable common future, to think and talk calmly about that future. In that future you will have a role to play." "What we need to do is not to lay the country to waste, call it peace and then think a new

South Africa will rise from the ashes. It is not going to be like that because nobody invests in a wasteland and it will take decades just to get back to where we are now." "We need to think of our common expectations, not our different policies."

Call For Withdrawal From Tricameral Parliament

On the same page a member of the President's Council, Ismail Omar, says "the elections clearly leave an impression of a sharp right turn taken by the Government to herd its voters into the laager, not even paying lip service to the theoretical equality of its two counterpart 'governments,'" the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates. "So much for its own policy of 'no domination by one group over another.' The already thin line of credibility participating politicians enjoy was hit for a six." "It is my belief that we have come as far as we can within existing constraints. Further unqualified participation is becoming unproductive, as the white elections confirm." "A fundamental principle of our politics is that we do not spurn negotiations because reasonableness and responsiveness to opportunities for dialogue is the very soul of participation politics. Government must accordingly be given a fair opportunity to respond with offers to meet our initiative. Withdrawal, if it takes place, should therefore not be before May 31 next year — a year from the date of the Government's newly sought mandate from its own electorate."

Fear Causes Move to Right

On page 23 author Alan Paton says he does not believe the election results would have been different had the PFP "played its cards better." "White South Africans were going to move to the right, and nothing could have stopped them. The main reason was fear, of the ANC, of the UDF, of COSATU, indeed of the future. A second and lesser reason was the ill-advised sanctions campaign of the West. It may be possible to lead Afrikaner Nationalists, but it is impossible to coerce them. The West, and particularly the United States Congress, has made a grave error, it has undertaken a course of action the results of which it cannot foresee." Paton points to Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi of KwaZulu as "one of the most powerful figures on the political stage, fluent, extremely knowledgeable, impossible to buy." "He will sit down and talk to P.W. Botha if another powerful figure, Nelson Mandela, is released. Our future would then depend on the relationship between the two men." Meanwhile, "reform and security run like two contrary tides in the same sea. White South Africa — with the exception of the CP — is more and more convinced of the need for social and political change, but would rather trust the NP than the PFP to bring it about."

BURGER on Black-White Communication Gap

A page 12 editorial in Cape Town *Die Burger* in Afrikaans on 14 May says that U.S. Ambassador Edward Perkins "put his finger on one of the South African community's most important shortcomings with his reference to an 'alarming communications gap' between whites and blacks in South Africa" in an address at Cape Town. "The government has made communication and negotiation one of its priorities and now with its newly acquired mandate it must focus more on it." But, "as Mr Perkins pointed out, a great deal of responsibility rests on churches, educational institutions, organizations, and individuals. Every white person should do something to improve communication," since "it is only through wider communication that whites and blacks can acquire

a greater understanding of one another's needs and aspirations."

BEELD: Sanctions Not Solution

Willie Khun writes in the "Political Image" column on page 6 of Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 15 May that people abroad "misread the security situation in the country" because "they do not know the Afrikaner." "The people abroad did not understand, and eagerly continued on their path of destruction. There will be more demands for sanctions, and violence will be fueled by the belief that this is the only language which a right-wing government can understand. What pure, tragic nonsense." "Solutions for SA will be even more difficult."

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Denies Pressuring Angola on Benguela Line
MB141230 Johannesburg International Service in English
0630 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia has denied allegations by the UNITA movement of Angola that Zambia and Zaire have put pressure on the Angolan Government to negotiate with UNITA to enable the reopening of the Benguela railway line. President Kaunda was responding to a statement by the UNITA leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi, who said on Sunday [10 May] that the two countries had put pressure on the Angolan Government to negotiate with UNITA to reopen the strategic railway line. Dr Savimbi said he would agree to the Benguela line being reopened provided it was not used for military purposes and a demilitarized zone was established along it.

Last month Angola, Zambia, and Zaire signed a declaration of intent to repair and reopen the line to reduce Zambian and Zairian dependence on trade routes through South Africa. President Kaunda said it was the Angolan Government that had decided of its free will to guarantee that the line would not be used for military purposes.

Traders Disagree Over Reducing Current Prices
MB151403 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Livingstone traders are said to be reluctant to reviewed prices on the current stock of supplies in their shops for fear of incurring losses. In a snap survey carried out by the *Zambian News Agency*, most shopkeepers say if they sell their stock at the current reviewed prices, they would lose as they acquired the stock at the auction rates. Other traders are reducing the prices of their commodities, (though they reveal) that they are bound to suffer a great loss.

In Mwanza, marketeers have pledged their support for the party and its government in its new economic program by willingly reducing prices of some commodities. Mwanza Governor (Hadifeli Mwalimulande) said yesterday sugar had had been reduced from 24 kwacha to 15 kwacha, adding that legislations were still going on to reduce the prices of (beef). In shops, prices of detergent soap range from 5 kwacha 81 ngwee to 10 kwacha 15 ngwee, while tablets of [word indistinct] have been reduced

from 2 kwacha to 1 kwacha. He predicted that if such a spirit continued, there would be lasting peace and stability.

Youths Rampage Over Beer Price

*MB151855 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 15 May 87*

[Text] Over 100 Chipata youth went on rampage last night, stoning and smashing a popular bar and injuring a policewoman because the bar owner was allegedly overcharging on beer. The policewoman sustained a deep cut in her right leg and the provincial land department officer, Comrade Steven Tembo, got two cuts on his forehead, while many of the 200 patrons left with assorted injuries. The rampage started at about 1900 hours when youth learnt that a bar in Kapata Township was selling beer at 4 kwacha a bottle and accused the owner of disregarding the president's decision to have prices of commodities reduced. Through there was no [words indistinct] the bar was extensively damaged as windows frames were shattered and doors pulled down.

ZIMBABWE

ANC Harare Office Bombed; No Casualties

*MB170852 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0848 GMT 17 May 87*

[Excerpt] Harare May 17 SAPA — An explosion rocked the African National Congress Harare offices early Sunday [17 May] morning, the second attack on the ANC in a week here. No one was hurt.

The small charge blew a 1ft by 1ft hole in the wall of the brick and tile house at 31A Lincoln Rd and shattered windows there and in neighboring homes in the Avondale suburb.

Neither the ANC nor the Zimbabwe Government officially commented on the explosion. But ANC sources said they believed a small amount of plastic explosive had been planted to the wall of the house that it seemed like a warning from South African agents. [sentence as received]

The guerrilla-backed ANC is fighting to topple white domination in South Africa.

ANC sources said Zimbabwean guards posted at the office on Saturday fired at someone spotted taking photographs of the house.

The bomb went off at 0510 Sunday local time (0310 GMT) and was heard three miles away. [passage omitted]

RSA Blamed for Attack

*MB171132 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 17 May 87*

[Text] Police have confirmed an explosion in the Avondale residential area in Harare at 5:10 am. The explosion was caused by

a rocket-propelled grenade which was launched from an open area 150 meters from nearby houses. The grenade exploded on a wall but caused no injuries. It shattered windows on nearby houses and left some of them with cracked walls. Police have cordoned off the area and investigations are in progress.

The minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarirra, says it is the work of the South African regime. This is the second blast in Harare in a week. Last Monday [11 May], one Zimbabwean woman, Comrade Tsitsi Chiliza, was killed in a bomb explosion hidden in a color television set brought in from outside the country.

The minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munagagwa, who was on the scene within minutes, also said the blast was the work of South African regime. He said the government has been aware that after the recent bogus election for whites only in South Africa there would be bombings in Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Botswana. Comrade Munagagwa urged Zimbabweans to be more vigilant, adding that the South African regime would embark on increased acts of destabilization against the Frontline States.

Mugabe Views White Political Rights, ZAPU Merger

*MB160831 Harare Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 16 May 87*

[Text] The president and first secretary of the ruling party, ZANU-PF, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says representation in Parliament must be nonracial, now that the Constitution allows it. In an interview with the *Herald* this week, Comrade Mugabe stressed that the party also wants whites to be accommodated in the overall political life of the country. Comrade Mugabe said the party will consult members of the white community, including even those Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe members of Parliament who are genuine about unity.

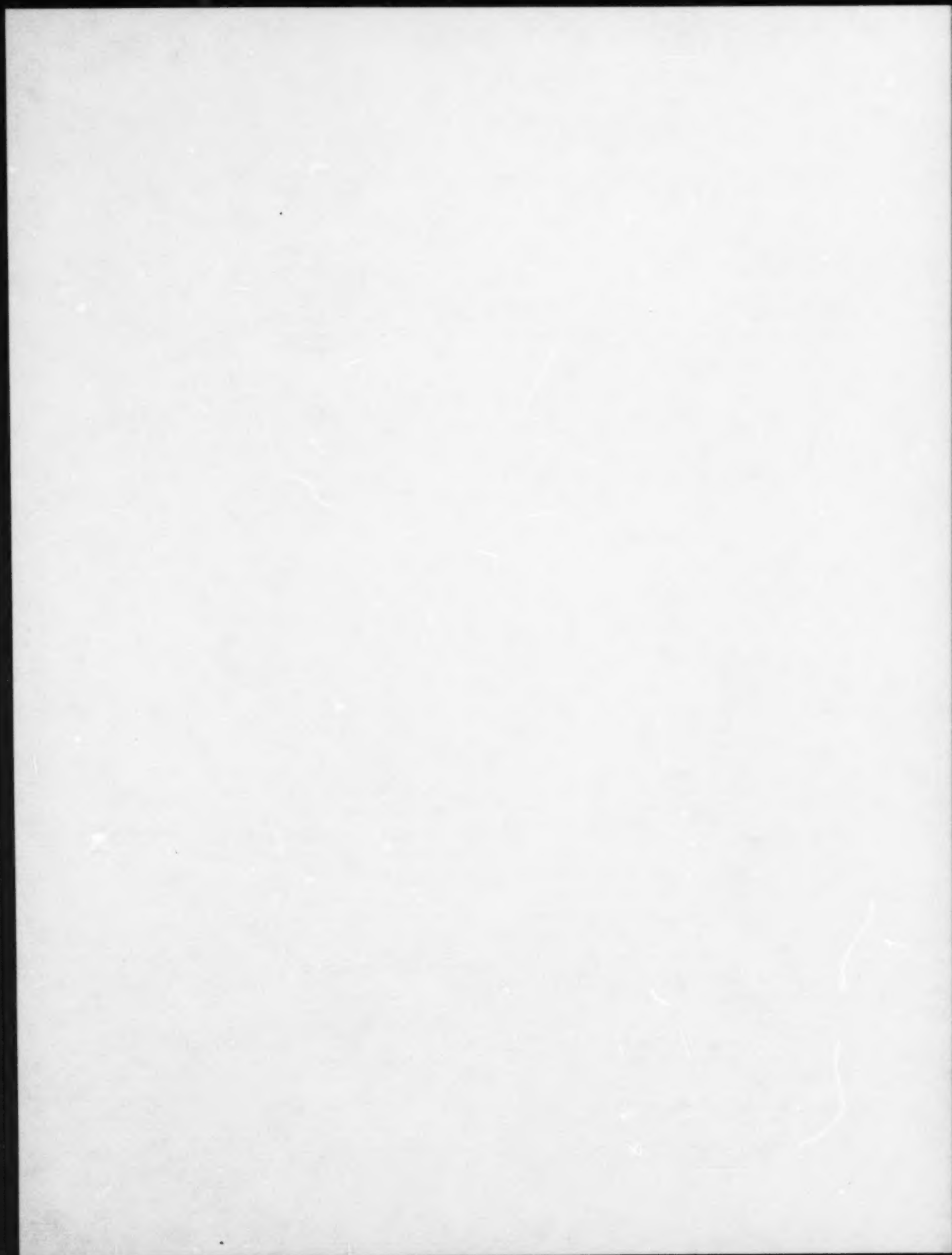
On the question of unity between ZANU-PF and PF-ZAPU, Comrade Mugabe said ZANU-PF is looking into the whole question in a new enhanced political order.

Nkomo on ZAPU Desire for Unity

*MB171640 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 17 May 87*

[Excerpt] The leader of PF-ZAPU, Dr Joshua Nkomo, has said his party is fully committed to unity talks. Addressing ZAPU supporters in Harare today, Dr Nkomo said the unity talks should not be allowed to collapse, because they are vital to the future of Zimbabwe. Dr Nkomo said there is need for Zimbabweans to unite and work hard, to frustrate racist South Africa's acts of unprovoked aggression.

He condemned tribalism and also criticized the murder of four farmers at Somabhula on the 9th of this month. The ZAPU leader said he would issue a statement on Friday in reply to the one made by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, before he left for the Ethiopian capital in Addis Ababa. [passage omitted]



VII. WESTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT

VIII. SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA DAILY REPORT

Contents unchanged

Renamed; formerly SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT; contents include:

International Affairs
Inter-African Affairs
Central Africa
 Burundi
 Cameroon
 Central African Republic
 Congo
 Equatorial Guinea
 Gabon
 Rwanda
 Sao Tome & Principe
 Zaire
East Africa
 Djibouti
 Ethiopia
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 Mauritius
 Seychelles
Southern Africa
 Angola
 Botswana
 Lesotho
 Malawi
 Mozambique
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 Republic of South Africa
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